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# PALACE

v Luton Town

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Inside this issue

## Matt Lawrence

Palace's Mr Dependable speaks on his various roles in the team

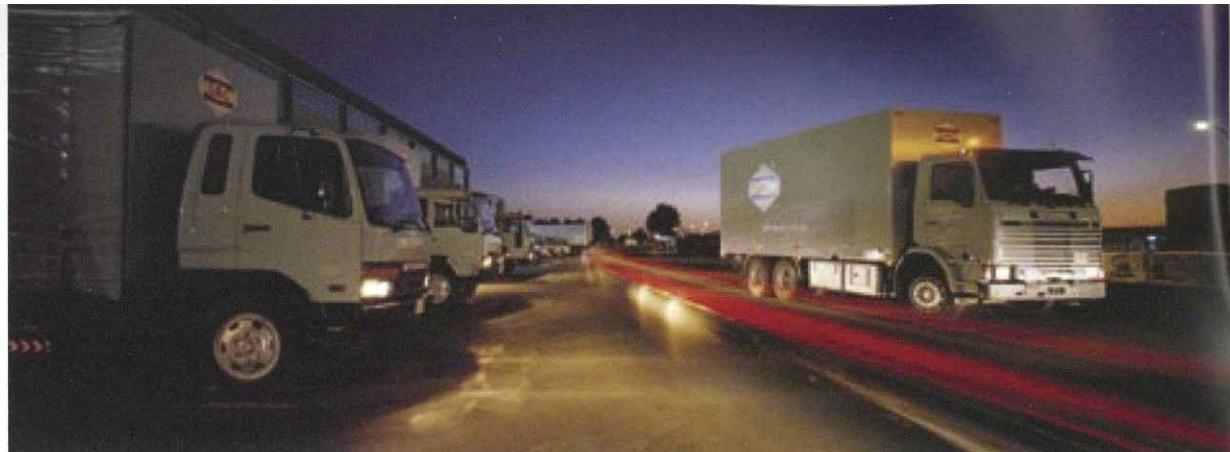
## Lewwis Spence

Youngster's debut dream

## Ben Watson

Midfielder picks his 'special' XI





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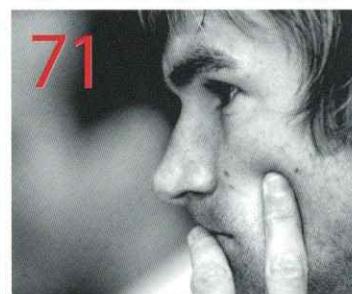
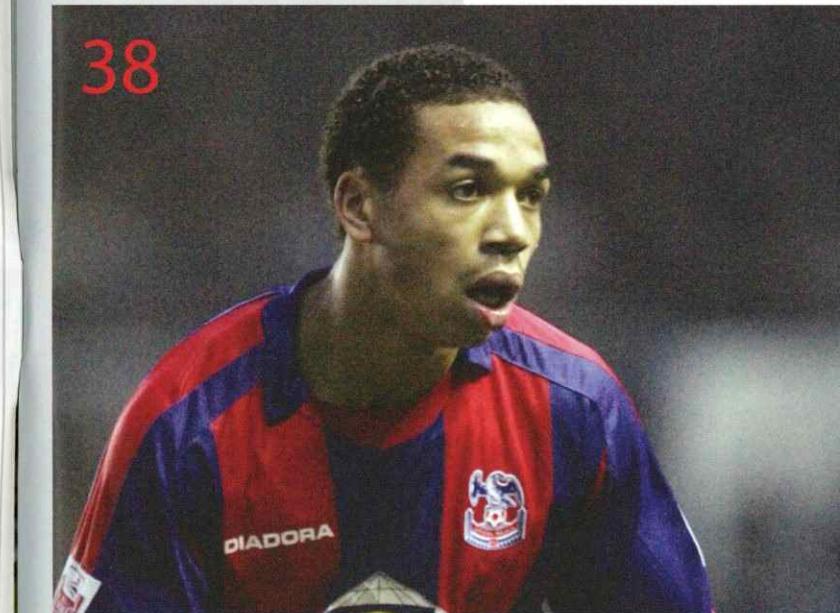
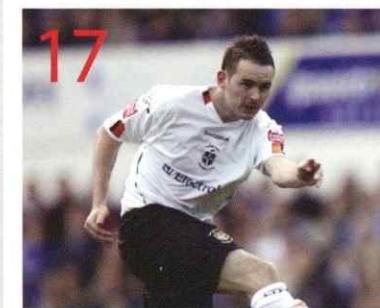
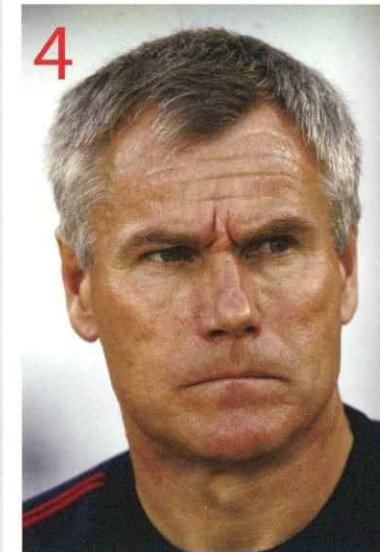
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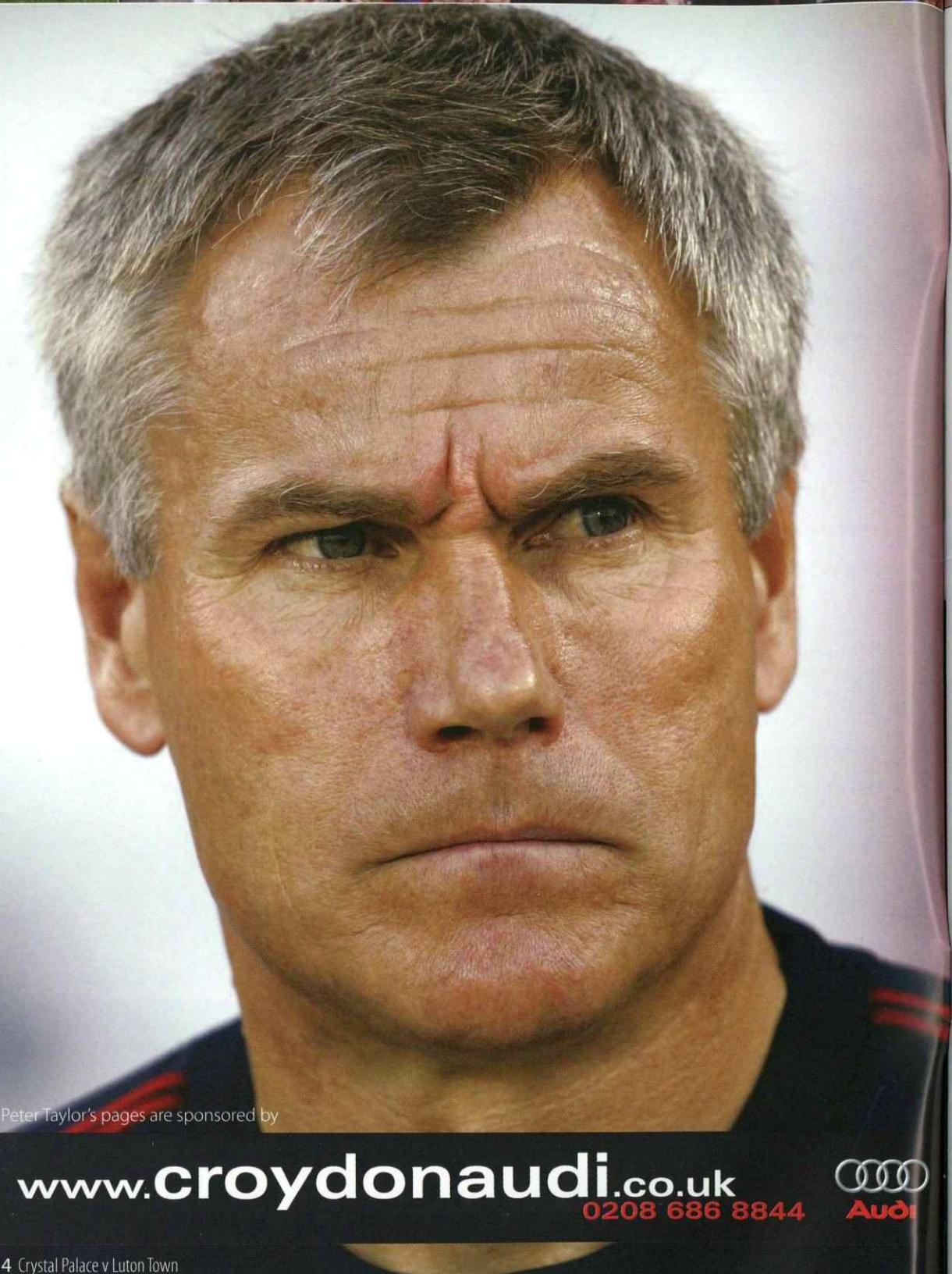
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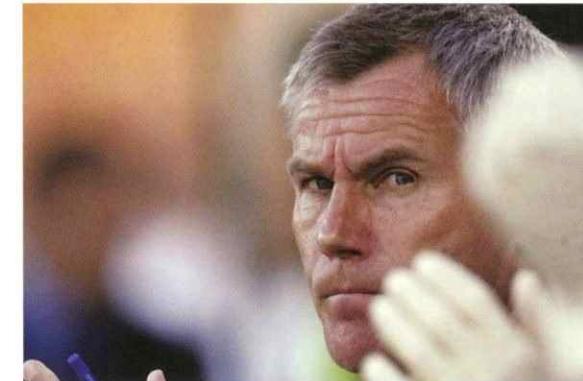
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## The Taylor Report

### Peter Taylor



Good afternoon and welcome back to Selhurst Park for this afternoon's game with Luton Town in the Championship.

Firstly, I'd like to welcome along Town boss Mike Newell and all of his staff and players from Kenilworth Road for the game today which I'm sure will be a decent match of football.

We are determined to put together another good run ourselves following Tuesday's win at Southend United, whilst Luton will be desperate to get something out of the game to improve their position in the league table as well.

After a decent start to the season, during which they beat us at Kenilworth Road in September, they have had a tricky run of form which wasn't helped by injuries to some of their main players and the sale of other players in January too.

However, they had a good win against Sheffield Wednesday on Tuesday night and got a decent point at Stoke last weekend so they will arrive here with confidence and looking to keep their run of results going.

We are also looking to do the same ourselves. The result against Birmingham City last Saturday makes it very hard for us to have any chance of reaching the top six and we will need to go on an amazing run of results if we are to do it.

With 12 games left now, I estimate that we would probably have to win at least nine of them to stand a chance of making the play-offs, so we would need to show some exceptional form over the next two months to make up for the first half of the season that we had.

I know that we are well capable of doing that though and we

will be taking each game at a time and looking to win every match.

Last Tuesday we showed that at Southend, which was a difficult game for us with them battling for their survival in the division. Roots Hall is never an easy place to go and get a result but we went there and put in a strong performance.

We got the goal in the second half through Paul Ifill and after that I thought we grew in confidence as a team and could quite easily have got a few more goals as Southend were pushing forward more and more to leave space at the back.

Before that, we were very disappointed with the result against Birmingham City last weekend. Whilst there wasn't a great deal between the two sides over the 90 minutes, we conceded the crucial first goal and never really looked like getting back into the game so we knew that we had to improve on Tuesday night at Southend, so I was delighted for everyone when we did especially the supporters who made the trip there to back us.

Tuesday also saw League debuts for Dave Martin and Lewis Grabban, who follow on from Lewlis Spence at Leeds two weeks ago in making the step-up to the first team with their substitute appearances. I have been pleased with the progress and determination shown by some of the younger players at the club over the season and if the chance arises, they will be given further opportunities to make an impression before the end of the season.

Enjoy the game,

Peter

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## Eagles Newsdesk

### FLINDERS LOAN

Palace goalkeeper Scott Flinders has joined Brighton and Hove Albion on a one month loan deal, to provide cover for the Seagulls' regular stopper Michel Kuipers. The 20-year-old made his debut for the Seagulls in their game with Gillingham last Tuesday, ironically after making nine appearances for the Gills in a loan spell earlier in the season. Flinders, who arrived at Selhurst Park from Barnsley last summer, has made 11 appearances in total for the Eagles so far this season, most recently in the FA Cup fourth round game with Preston North End and he will be at the Withdean Stadium until Monday 19th March.

### QUARTER SEASON TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

As the final furlong of the 2006/07 season approaches, the club now have some great savings on season tickets for the final FIVE home matches of the season. Full details are available from the Box Office but one example is a season ticket for the Lower Holmesdale and Croydon Advertiser Family Stand which is available for an adult for JUST £105 for those final five home games. To take advantage of both of these offers, call the Selhurst Park box office on 08712 00 00 71 or visit in person between 9am and 6pm Monday to Friday or between 9.30am and 12.30pm on Saturday non-matchdays or 9am to kick-off and half an hour after the game on Saturday matchdays.



### VICTOR TO SIGN DEAL

Palace Academy star Victor Moses will this afternoon commit his future to the Eagles, by signing a three year contract pitchside at half time. Moses, 16, will join Palace as a full-time Academy scholar in the summer and when he turns 17 later this year, he will enter a three year professional contract with the club. Moses meanwhile proved to be the match-winner for England Under 17s last weekend when he netted a wonder goal against hosts Portugal in the Algarve Tournament on Saturday. The goal arrived when Moses connected with a back heel from 12 yards out which flew into the net and has since been likened to a famous FA Cup strike from Chelsea's Gianfranco Zola, only further out than the five yards from which the Italian scored against Norwich City back in 2002. "It was special," said Under 17s coach John Peacock after the game. "We actually watched Zola's goal when the BBC were previewing Chelsea's game with Norwich. That was from five yards - Victor's was from 12 yards. It was one hell of a finish." Victor also featured in the draw with France last Sunday and the defeat to Germany on Tuesday and he will be linking up again with the national side for further qualifiers against Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Azerbaijan.

## Club Honours

**Division One Champions:**  
1993/94

**Division One Play-off winners:**  
1996/97, 2003/04

**Division Two Champions:**  
1978/79

**Division Two Play-off winners:**  
1988/89

**Division Three Champions:**  
1920/21

**Full Members Cup:**  
1991

**FA Youth Cup:**  
1977, 1978

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## The Fletch Files

Since my last set of notes for the Birmingham City game last weekend, we have had one disappointing result and also a good result.

Obviously, the disappointment was losing to Birmingham here last week. It was a tough game as we always knew it would be and I think it was one of those games which could have gone either way depending on who scored the first goal, but they took the lead in the first half and it was hard work back from there.

That made it two defeats in succession following the result at Leeds United the week before so we knew we had to bounce back and we managed to do that pretty well at Southend United on Tuesday.

We knew that it was going to be a hard game, with Southend fighting for their lives at the bottom of the table and scrapping for every point, so we went over there prepared for the match and to get the three points, which we were pleased to do thanks to an improved performance in the second half.

This afternoon, we face another team who will be desperate for points to keep them away from any relegation scrap so we know it is going to be another tough and tricky game, as they all are in the Championship.

Hopefully though, we can build on the result we got on Tuesday and we know have to put in a good performance and be at the top of our game to get anything out of it.

We lost the game at Kenilworth Road earlier in the season and they were playing quite well at the time so we know what they can be about. Mike Newell gets them playing well together and working very hard for each other.

Over the last couple of months, they have lost a lot of players through transfers and injury so there may well

be a lot of different personnel on show as to earlier in the season, but we've just got to worry about what we're going to do and focus on doing the things that we're good at so if we can do that and keep a clean sheet then there's every chance of winning.

It has also been pleasing to see a few of the younger lads in Lewlis Spence, Lewis Grabban and Dave Martin all making the step-up into the first team with their League debuts in the last couple of weeks. At the moment, we've been a little bit stretched at times with injuries and suspensions and they have all come into the squad and done well.

They've been working hard in training and trying to do the right things and I don't think they've been phased by anything so the Gaffer hasn't been afraid to put them into the team and we've seen that when they've come on, they have done very well.

It's a little taster for them and they'll now want more and more minutes under their belt. Most of the senior players try and help them along should they need it, but they're all confident young lads so it's just great for them to be out there and then to come off the pitch and see the older players encouraging and helping them. It's just a good experience for them to be involved and I'm sure they're enjoying every game at the moment.

Enjoy the game,

Carl





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### MARQUEE EVENTS NOW BOOKING:

**May 19th** - Player of the Year Dinner & Dance - Tickets £550 incl VAT for table of 10 and individual places @ £62.50 (please see page 62 of today's programme for more details)

**May 22nd** - Croydon Charity Ball - Table of 10 at just £695 + Vat

**May 24th** - Sporting Dinner - Table of 10 @ £699 + Vat

### ALSO BOOKING:

**Mar 15th** - Evening With Simon Jordan and Dougie Freedman - selling out fast!

**Mar 20th** - Geoff Thomas Charity Match 1990 FA Cup Semi Final v Liverpool - Executive Boxes and Pre-Match Hospitality available. (Please see page 72 for more details)

**Mar 27th** - CPFC Spring Race Day at Lingfield Park (Please see page 72 of today's programme for more details)

**April 18th** - CPFC Golf Day at Bletchingley GC, Surrey

**May 13th** - 6-A-Side Tournament at Selhurst Park - Teams @ £550 + Vat

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Today's match sponsors are Cleankill (Environmental Services) Ltd. The Purley based pest control firm have had an outstanding 12 months, which started off in fine style by achieving the internationally recognised Investor in People standard. Then in October, at a gala ceremony at Addington Palace, they won the 'Best Growing Business' accolade at the annual Best of Borough Awards. Two months later they went through the million pound turnover barrier for the first time. The past year has also seen staff numbers increase by 19%, as they start towards being recognised as a national brand.

In keeping with their policy of putting commitment back into the community, (Cleankill actively support junior tennis coaching at a local club, and also the Seaford under 9s football club), Cleankill's VIP guests today are the Cubs of the 11th Purley (St James Riddlesdown Pack). This pack has, for 5 out of the last 6 years won the Croydon District Baloo Trophy. This is a Scouting competition which tests a variety of skills of the 8-10 year olds, and was first competed for in 1929. Last September nearly 200 Cubs took part in the event. The Packs Akela, Paul Bates, (who is also Managing Director of Cleankill) felt that the achievement of the Pack should be acknowledged in a special way, especially as 2007 is the Centenary of Scouting.



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## From The Sidelines

Paul Caton



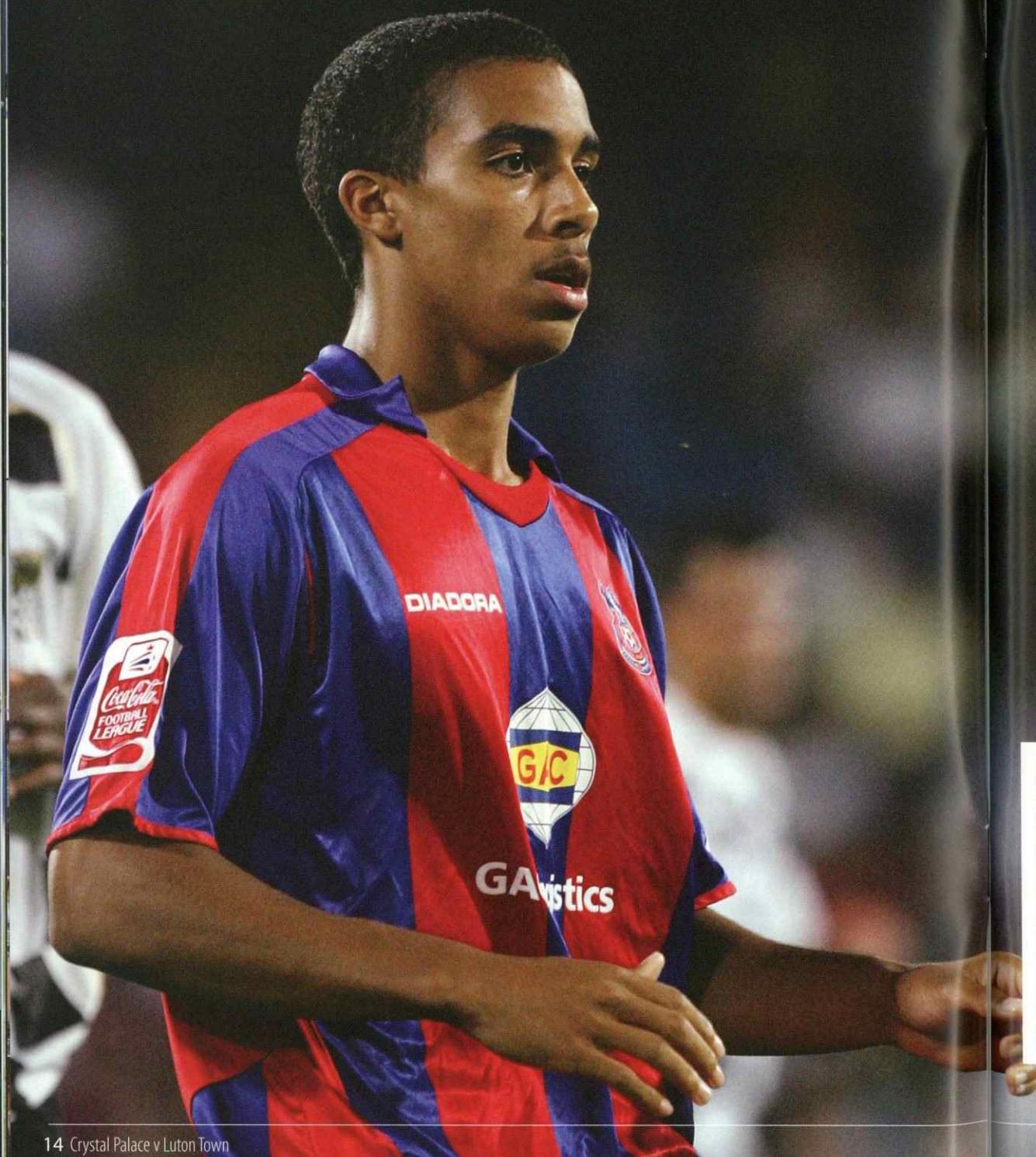
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did give him, he still wasn't quite right so we have make sure we nurse him along and build up his training bit by bit. This afternoon will be too soon, but we have one eye on the Burnley game and if not, possibly the week after that.

Paul Ifill felt a sharp pain in his achilles at Southend United on Tuesday night, when he was chasing a ball into the corner. It didn't quite settle as the game progressed and towards the end he was very stiff and couldn't get around the pitch as he normally can so that is a cause for concern. It is an area where he had a bit of a niggle last season with Sheffield United and it kept him out for a game or two but hopefully it won't come to that this time. At the time of writing, he was still a bit sore but we'll take it on a day-by-day basis with regards to the game with Luton, so hopefully it will have settled down in the meantime and he will be available.

Ben Watson is back up to running speed now following the thigh injury that has kept him sidelined over the last couple of weeks. He's been working hard this week and we hope to get him back in full training from Monday. Given he has been out for a few weeks, it would be a risk to push him for today's game but he could be in contention for next week against Burnley as he is coming along very well and working hard to get himself fit to join the rest of the squad from Monday.

So, we do have quite a few doubts for this afternoon's game but we could well have a few back for the game next weekend.



## Getting to know you

### Lewis GRABBAN

**Which Palace player has the worst haircut?**

Tom Soares.

**What has been your good deed for the day?**

I got some cake for Arron Fray after lunch.

**How many times did it take to pass your driving test?** Three times.

**Do you read the newspapers? If so, which one?**

Usually the Sun.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

Watch television or read about things that are beneficial to me.

**If you could, which law would you change in the country?** I would give longer sentences for rapists and paedophiles.

**What is your favourite piece of clothing?**

My G-Star coat.

**Who is the funniest player in the dressing room and why?** Danny Butterfield, he's just crazy.

**If you could change places with anyone in the world for 24 hours, who would it be?**

To be honest, I wouldn't want to change places with anyone at the moment.

**Have you bought anything interesting lately?**

Not really, no.

**What is your dream car?** A Mercedes SL 55.

**If you could invite any three people for dinner, who would you choose?** I would invite three Muslims who have succeeded in what they do in life, so I'll go for Muhammad Ali, Robin van Persie and Kolo Toure.

**Who is the most famous person in your mobile phone?** Probably Clinton Morrison.

**Which player has the worst taste in music?**

Lewis Spence, because he listens to rock and roll.

**If you could be an animal, which one would you be?** Probably a lion.



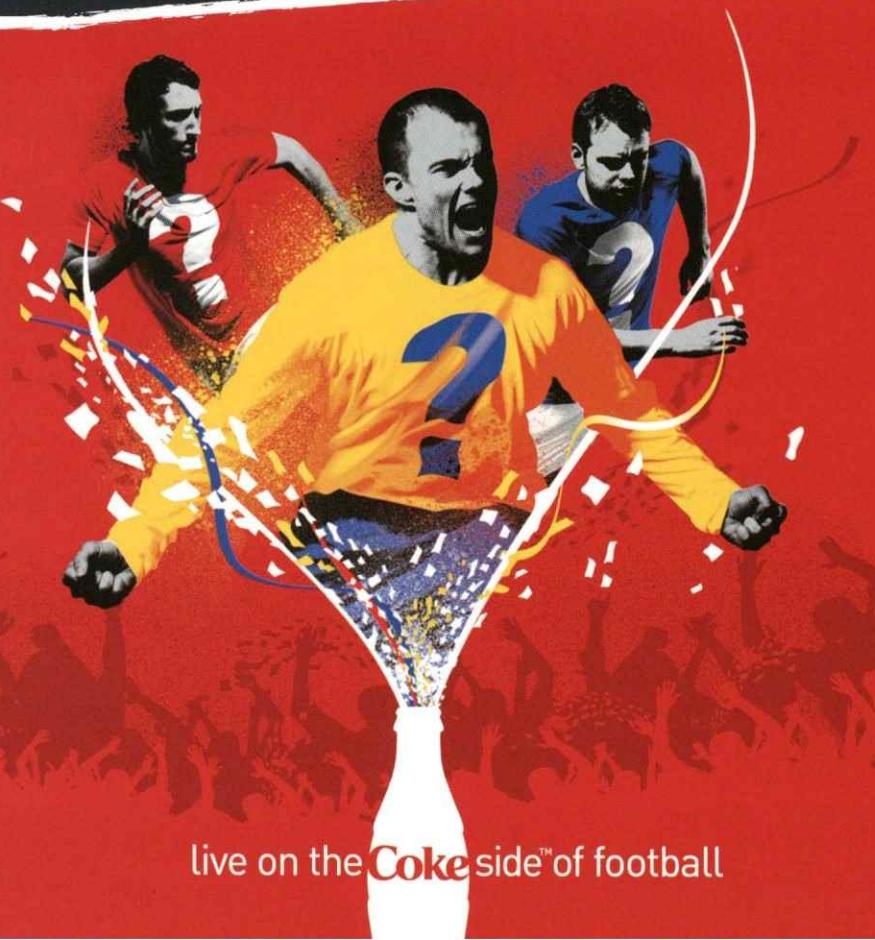
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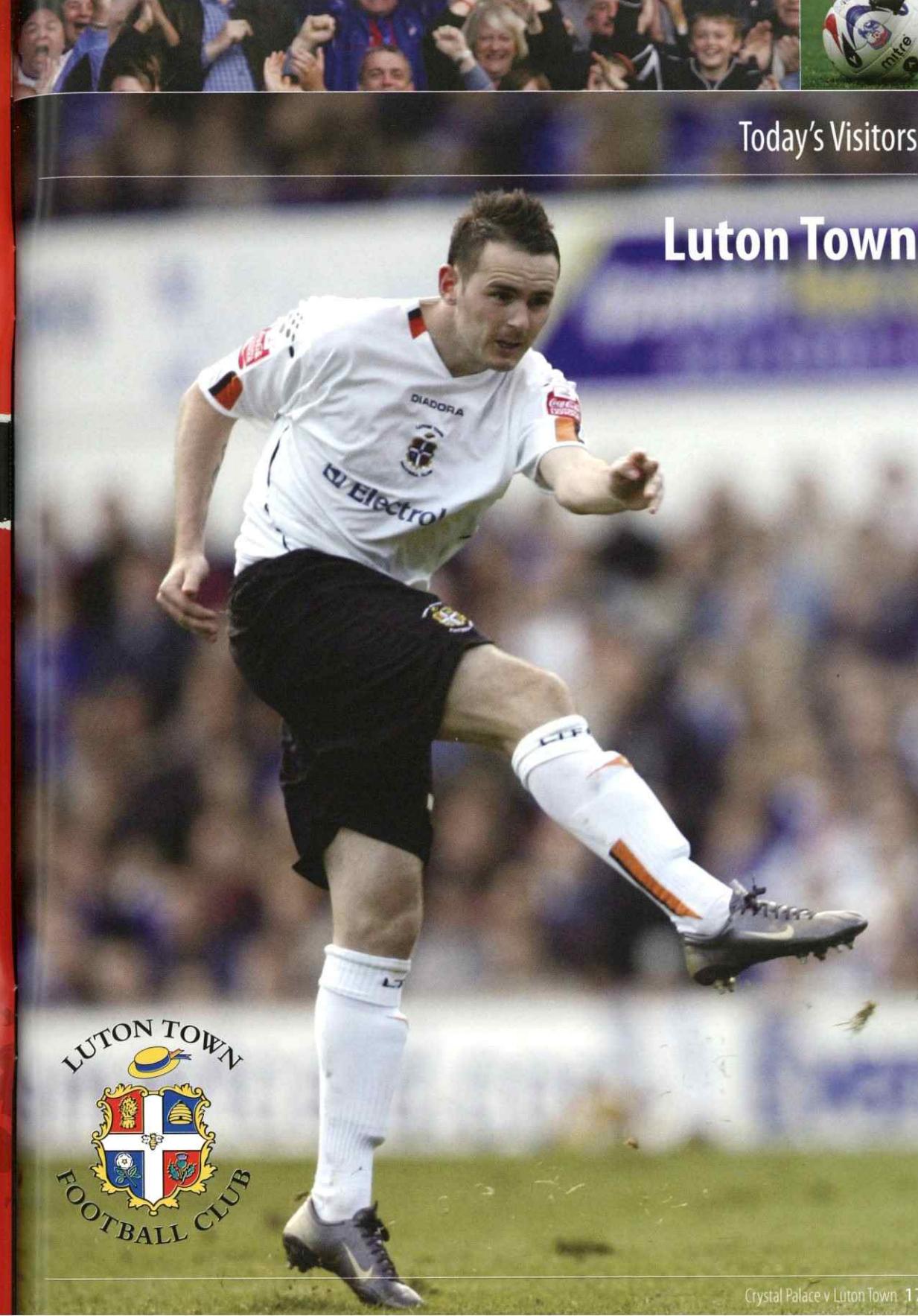
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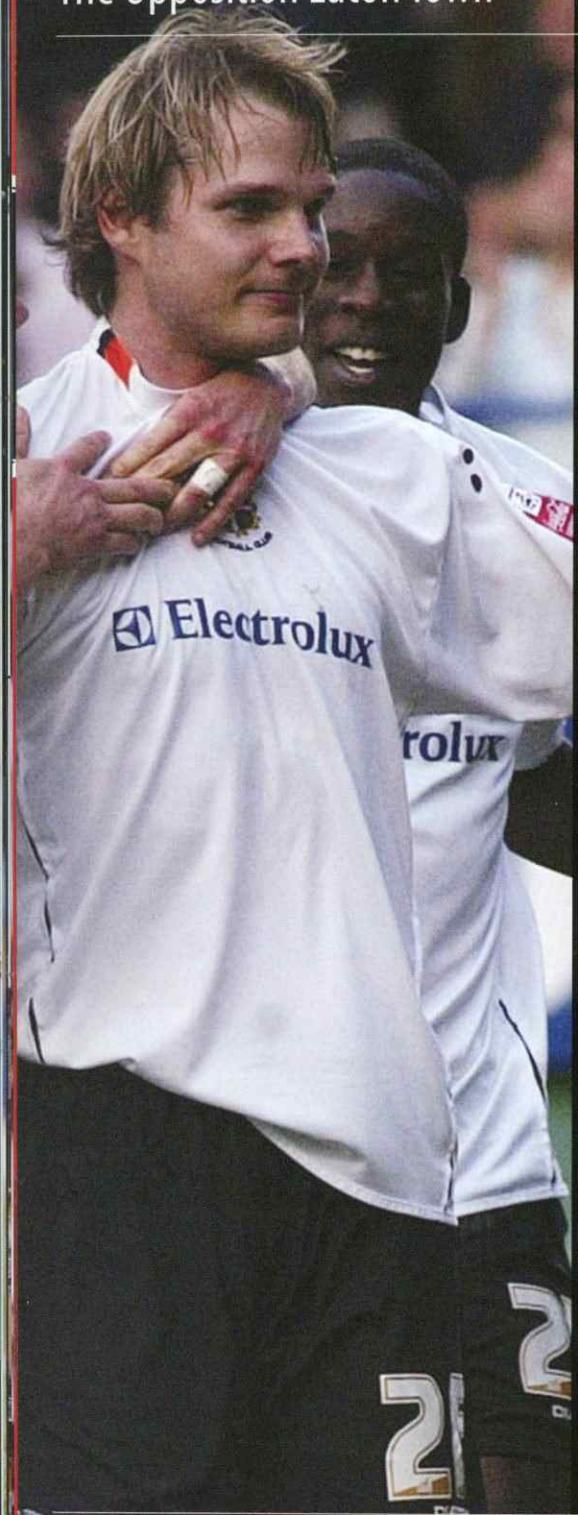
Today's Visitors

**Luton Town**





## The Opposition Luton Town



This afternoon sees the visit to Selhurst Park of Luton Town, who make the relatively short trip to SE25 from their Bedfordshire home for this Championship clash.

It has been an unfortunate season for the Hatters so far, as after making a reasonably bright start to the campaign, a string of bad injuries to key members of their squad and seeing star players sold on has restricted Mike Newell in being able to build on that early success.

Palace were victims of Town's decent form at Kenilworth Road earlier in the season, when the Hatters were 2-1 winners in early September. However, the two goalscorers that day, Carlos Edwards and Rowan Vine, were big money departures last month to further deplete Newell's squad.

Edwards was signed by Roy Keane for Sunderland in a £1.4m deal whilst Vine linked up with last week's visitors here in Birmingham City who paid a reported fee of £2.5m for him.

Back in the summer, more key players in Steve Howard and Kevin Nicholls had left the club for Championship rivals Derby County and Leeds United respectively so following last season's 10<sup>th</sup> place finish, there was already a challenge to improve on what had been a successful season of consolidation.

Injuries have also cost Newell's team as Sam Parkin, a £350,000 purchase from Ipswich and seen as a direct replacement for Howard, was ruled out for most of this season back in October with a re-occurrence of an ankle injury that had affected him previously.

Town have also been hit by long term knocks to the likes of more important players like Markus

Heikkinen, Sol Davis and Paul Underwood at various stages of the season.

They come into the match having not enjoyed the best of form in the Championship too but after last Saturday's draw with Stoke City at the Britannia Stadium and then a 3-2 win over Sheffield Wednesday on Tuesday night, they will be looking onwards and upwards.

Prior to this, Luton endured a miserable start to the winter in late October and throughout November when they lost seven straight games in the Championship and before Tuesday's victory they hadn't won since December.

It is that form which has seen them sucked into the bottom third of the table and they will now be looking to put a good run together over the coming weeks in order to avoid any kind of scrap against relegation.

They are currently too close for comfort for Newell's liking and he will have made it clear to his players that they will have to scrap for everything in order to pull themselves away from danger.

With the club planning in the long term to move away from Kenilworth Road and into a modern new stadium, everyone connected with the club knows that it's important to have the Hatters playing in the Championship in order to match their ambitions for the future.

The spirit, togetherness and determination shown by Luton over the last few years as they have risen up from the basement division and back into the top flight of the Football League will be in no short supply under the charge of Newell, so they will certainly be confident of finding the form they need.

## The Manager Mike Newell

The Hatters boss has never been far away from the headlines in recent months, thanks to his well documented thoughts and opinions on the game at large, but his achievements as a manager in his career so far cannot be overlooked.

Appointed in the summer of 2003, Newell brought Luton back into the Championship after a near 10 year absence which had seen the Bedfordshire club dip into the bottom rung of the Football League before climbing their way back up and completing the journey in spectacular style under Newell in the 2004/05 campaign.

Taking over from Joe Kinnear following a bizarre supporter poll instigated by the club's new owners, Newell beat off reported competition from the likes of Steve Cotterill and Kinnear to land the job and it proves to have been a shrewd decision as after a season of building his squad, promotion was sealed in his second season in charge when he was also named as the League One Manager Of The Year of 2005, collecting a record points total in the process to take the Hatters into the Championship.

Prior to the job at Kenilworth Road, Newell had already achieved a previous promotion in his management career when he led Hartlepool United to success in the 2002/03 term with a second placed finish in the old Third Division. Strangely though, that wasn't enough to secure him a new contract at the Victoria Ground, which freed him up to take the Luton role on.

He had already picked up some experience on the touchline before this, managing the Tranmere Rovers reserve team and also as a coach with Doncaster Rovers, so it was seen as a risk by United when they appointed him but it also gave Newell the chance to prove himself as a boss and it was an opportunity he has since grabbed with both hands.

As a player, Newell spent nearly two years at Kenilworth Road as a hungry young striker. The Liverpudlian started out as a schoolboy at Anfield, but was forced to move into the lower leagues with the likes of Crewe Alexandra and Wigan Athletic before arriving at Luton in 1986 and then heading to Leicester City in late 1987.

His goals there earned him a move to the top flight and he is probably best remembered for his time there with both Everton and Blackburn Rovers, winning the Premiership title with Rovers in 1995 and also picking up the accolade of scoring the quickest ever hat-trick in the Champions League, following a 10 minute treble against Rosenborg at Ewood Park.

After that, Newell had a spell with Birmingham City before moving north of the border to Aberdeen and then spending the latter years of his career back at Crewe and then with Doncaster Rovers and Blackpool.

His reputation as a boss remains good too, after successfully guiding Town to a comfortable finish in the Championship last season and, despite the sale of several key players and restrictions on his own spending, he continues to work beyond his means at Kenilworth Road.





## Key Players

### Sol Davis

**Position:** Defender

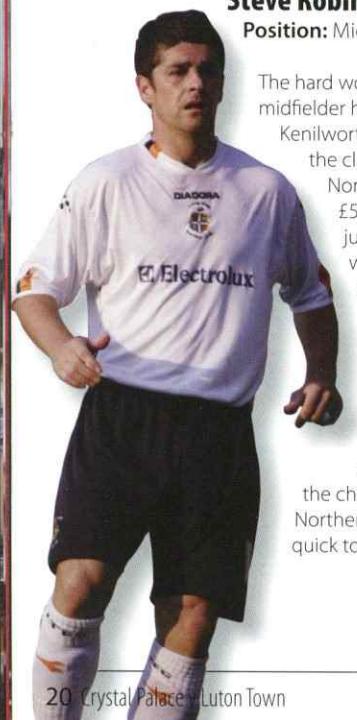
A reliable defender for the Hatters, Sol Davis is back in the team at Kenilworth Road following a real health scare earlier in the season. The 27-year-old was taken ill ahead of Town's game with Ipswich in October and it turned out to be a stroke which kept the former Swindon Town left-back hospitalised for the best part of a week. He showed tremendous fight and determination to battle his way back and made a remarkable recovery to be back in action for the first team just 59 days after the stroke. He was signed by Luton in 2002 for £60,000 from Swindon and has since been a regular there, now approaching 200 appearances for the club.



### Steve Robinson

**Position:** Midfielder

The hard working and competitive midfielder has been a popular figure at Kenilworth Road since his arrival at the club back in 2002 from Preston North End. The Hatters paid £55,000 for the former Spurs junior and it has been money well spent with the 32-year-old providing a vital cog in the midfield. He made his name in the lower leagues whilst with AFC Bournemouth and it was from there that he joined North End. However, he never secured a regular spot at Deepdale and when the chance came to join Luton, the Northern Ireland international was quick to sign.



### Lewis Emanuel

**Position:** Defender/Midfielder

A promising left sided player, who was snapped up on a Bosman free transfer from Bradford City last summer. The 23-year-old can play as either a defender or midfielder and provides the side with pace and balance when he is selected. He came through the youth ranks at Valley Parade and went on to make over 150 appearances for his hometown club before taking the chance to return to the Championship at Kenilworth Road upon the expiry of his contract with the Yorkshiremen. He has been a regular so far this season and will be looking to get more experience under his belt whilst helping Town in the process.



### Matthew Spring

**Position:** Midfielder

Now in his second spell with the Hatters, Spring was a January signing from local rivals Watford in a deal worth around £200,000. The 27-year-old was at Kenilworth Road since being a schoolboy and made his debut for the club 10 years ago now after impressing in the youth team. Having made over 100 appearances before his 20th birthday, the Harlow born midfielder was often linked with a move elsewhere and it was in 2004 when he joined Leeds United. Injuries saw his appearances there restricted and it was the move to Watford in August 2005 that rekindled his career as he played a big part in helping the Hornets into the Premiership last season, scoring at Selhurst Park in their play-off victory here last May.



## One To Watch

### Leon Barnett

**Position:** Defender

Luton were glad to see the back of the January transfer window recently, with plenty of rumours that a number of clubs were lining up a swoop for young defender Leon Barnett.

The homegrown star has been a regular in the Town side over the last season and a half and has had the scouts flocking to Kenilworth Road over the last few months thanks to his impressive performances.

Still just 21-years-old, Barnett made his senior Luton debut against Woking in the LDV Vans Trophy at the age of just 16, back in October 2002 and he went on to feature for the club's Under 17, Under 19, reserve and first team in the space of one season.

It was a rapid progression for the locally born player and his maturity over the years has impressed everyone at Kenilworth Road whether he has been involved in the first team, second string or junior sides.

Primarily a central defender, Barnett can also play as a full-back and his tall and athletic presence make him a physically competent player in both roles.

His big break arrived last season when injuries robbed Town of their regular defenders and Barnett grabbed his opportunity in the team with both hands with some commanding performances in the heart of the Hatters defence.

That helped establish himself in Mike Newell's plans and he got off to a perfect start to this season by scoring the first Championship goal of the 2006/07 campaign in the televised match against Leicester City at Kenilworth Road.



LUTON TOWN  
FOOTBALL CLUB



# Player Profiles



## Luton Town Squad Statistics

**The Hatters Career**

Player	Apps.	Goals
<b>Goalkeepers</b>		
1. Marlon Beresford	126	0
33. Dean Brill	17	0
34. Zach Barrett	0	0
<b>Defenders</b>		
2. Kevin Foley	156	5
3. Sol Davis	180	2
4. Chris Coyne	219	15
5. Russell Perrett	108	9
6. Paul Underwood	72	5
16. Lewis Emanuel	30	1
24. Shaun Ross	0	0
25. Leon Barnett	59	2
26. Markus Heikkinen	66	3
32. Ed Asafu-Adjaye	0	0
35. Chris Pendleton	0	0
<b>Midfielders</b>		
7. Matthew Spring	293	30
8. Steve Robinson	168	11
11. Dean Morgan	67	11
15. Stephen O'Leary	33	2
17. Richard Langley	24	1
18. Ahmet Brkovic	216	38
21. Keith Keane	60	3
22. Danny Stevens	1	0
28. David Bell	36	2
<b>Forwards</b>		
9. Bjorn Runstrom	3	1
10. Warren Feeney	78	11
19. Sam Parkin	8	1
20. Adam Boyd	23	2
29. Calvin Andrew	12	1
30. Drew Talbot	4	1

### Marlon Beresford

The experienced stopper recently signed a contract extension until 2009, proving how well regarded the 37-year-old is at Kenilworth Road. An excellent shot stopper and renowned penalty saver, Beresford has plenty of experience at this level having played for Burnley, Sheffield Wednesday, Wolves, Middlesbrough and Bradford City amongst others.

### Kevin Foley

A homegrown full-back who has gone on to reach the Republic Of Ireland squad thanks to his form for the Hatters and the Ireland Under 21 side. With over 150 appearances for Town now behind him, the 22-year-old has decent experience for his age and is said to have attracted the interest of numerous top flight clubs.

### Chris Coyne

The big Australian centre-half arrived at Kenilworth Road from Dundee for £50,000 back in 2001 and he has been a popular figure at the club ever since. He was first brought to Britain by West Ham United when they saw him play for the Australia Under 17 side, but after finding opportunities there limited he moved north to Scotland before arriving back in England. Has seen his appearances restricted by injuries this season.

### Russell Perrett

A strong and experienced defender, Perrett has been with Luton since 2001 when he signed from Cardiff City and he has since helped them to win two promotions. The 33-year-old started out in non-league with Lympstone before Portsmouth snapped him up in 1995. After 80 appearances in four years there, it was on to Cardiff where promotion was achieved before his switch to Luton.

### Paul Underwood

As one of the best players in Rushden & Diamonds' ascent into the Football League, it was no surprise when Luton swooped to sign him in 2004 and beating off notable competition from other teams in the process. The left winger was a regular in the England semi-professional set-up and adapted well to the full time scene, although injury has curtailed his appearances this season.

### Ahmet Brkovic

A hard working and skilful midfielder, capable of scoring spectacular goals and creating chances for others. The 32-year-old Croatian has been at Kenilworth Road since the summer of 2001 when he left Leyton Orient. It proved to be a good choice for the onetime HNK Dubrovnik player as he has since won two promotions with the Hatters and become a firm favourite with the fans.

### Bjorn Runstrom

Currently on loan from Fulham, this Swedish striker is highly rated and despite his tender age of 23, he already has an impressive list of former clubs. Fulham signed him for £700,000 last summer from Hammarby in his homeland. Prior to that, he had been playing in

Italy with the likes of Fiorentina, Chievo Verona and Bologna, where he came through the youth ranks.

### Sam Parkin

Big striker who signed for Town ahead of Preston North End last summer for a fee just over £300,000 from Ipswich Town. The 25-year-old began his career with Chelsea but moved away from Stamford Bridge to get regular football and found it at Swindon Town where his record of 67 goals in 127 league appearances saw his reputation soar. Currently ruled out with an ankle injury.

### Warren Feeney

Northern Ireland international striker, who joined Town from Stockport County in 2005 for a fee of £150,000. The 26-year-old began his career with Leeds United but it was during his time with AFC Bournemouth that he found regular action after leaving Elland Road. His time at Stockport saw him net 17 goals in 32 games for a struggling side to grab Mike Newell's attention.

### Dean Morgan

The pacy frontman was an arrival from Reading in the summer of 2005 and has since proved to be a good addition to the Hatters squad. After starting his career in the youth team at Colchester United, a move to the Madejski Stadium came in November 2003. However, the 23-year-old found regular first team chances there hard to come by and remedied that with his switch to Luton.

### Stephen O'Leary

Another product of the Luton youth ranks who has gone on to feature for the Republic Of Ireland, the 22-year-old midfielder is a highly rated player and had a spell on loan with Tranmere Rovers last season where he impressed everyone with his skill and determination. However, he hasn't had too many chances to feature for the Hatters so far this season.

### Richard Langley

The Jamaican international midfielder signed last summer following his departure from Queens Park Rangers. That was his second spell at Loftus Road, sandwiching two years with Cardiff City and the 27-year-old has plenty of experience in the Championship. With plenty of ability and the knack of getting in the box, Langley is an important figure when selected.

### Adam Boyd

The 24-year-old striker was a £500,000 arrival from Hartlepool United last summer, but has yet to really establish himself at Kenilworth Road. He was a prolific goalscorer with Hartlepool, where he worked under Mike Newell, scoring 60 goals in just over 160 appearances including a tally of 29 in the 2004/05 campaign.

### Keith Keane

After making his Hatters debut at just 16 back in 2003, Keith has gone on to become a regular member of the squad at Kenilworth

Road and has also won international caps with Republic Of Ireland youth sides. Now 20, Keane is a powerful right-sided midfield player who can both score and create goals.

### Danny Stevens

The pint sized winger has yet to secure a regular place in the first team squad, but at just 20-years-old, will be hoping for more chances in the future following his debut for the club on the final day of last season. A pacy and tricky player, who was snapped up from Spurs.

### Markus Heikkinen

The Finnish international joined the Hatters from Aberdeen in the summer of 2005 following Luton's promotion to the Championship. Having already had experience of the division during a short spell with Portsmouth in the 2002/03 season, the 28-year-old slotted straight into the side and has been a regular ever since, also featuring in midfield when required.

### David Bell

A talented midfielder who joined from Rushden and Diamonds last January and can play in a variety of roles across the midfield. The Republic Of Ireland Under 21 international came through the ranks at Nene Park and made well over 100 appearances there to catch the attention of numerous clubs, but the 23-year-old chose Kenilworth Road as his destination.

### Calvin Andrew

A tall and pacy striker and another product of the Hatters' youth policy, Calvin first came to prominence when he notched eight goals in three games for the youth team. The 20-year-old made his first team debut back in 2004 and has since added more experience with loan spells at Grimsby Town and Bristol City.

### Drew Talbot

A January signing from Sheffield Wednesday for £250,000, the 20-year-old striker was something of a 'super-sub' for the Owls and will be hoping to play more first team football with the Hatters. A product of Wednesday's Academy, he has seen his appearances restricted by injury in recent seasons but will be looking to put that behind him at Kenilworth Road.

### Dean Brill

A homegrown goalkeeper who provides decent competition and cover for Marlon Beresford. The 21-year-old has come through the various junior teams for his hometown club and the tall stopper added to his experience with a loan spell at Gillingham earlier this season, after initially debuting for Luton back in the 2003/04 campaign.



# FAMILY DAY

CRYSTAL PALACE v SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY



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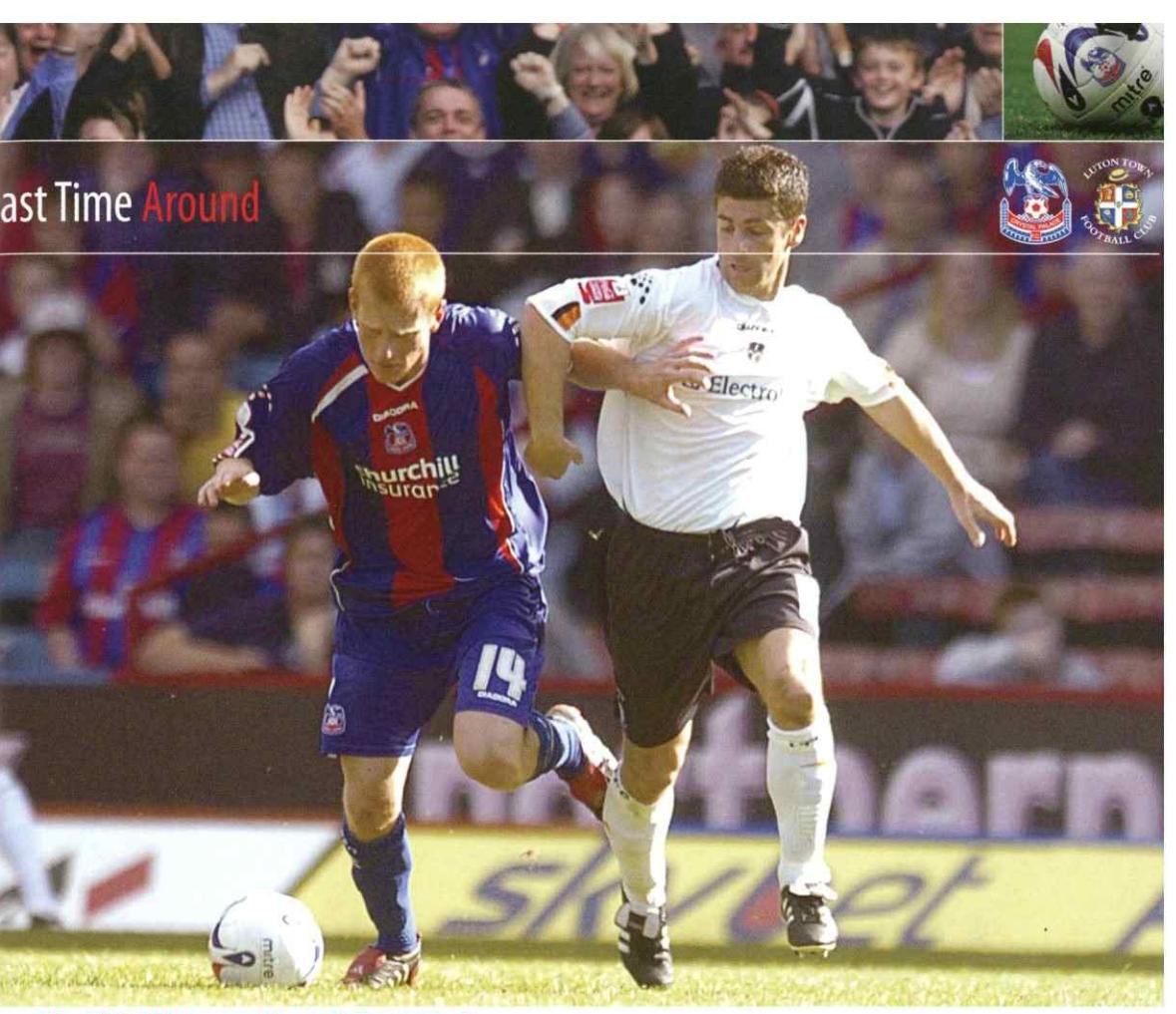
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The Clubs' last meeting at Selhurst Park

06.08.05

**Crystal Palace**  
Luton Town

**PALACE:** Kiraly, Boyce, Hudson (Ward 84), Hall, McAnuff, Watson, Hughes, Borrowdale, Soares (Kolkka 62), Macken (Andrews 84), Johnson.

**LUTON:** Brill, Foley, Davies, Heikkinen, Underwood, Nicholls, Robinson, Brkovic (Showunmi 88), Morgan (Holmes 71), Howard, Feeney.



Palace and presumably Luton, made their earliest-ever start to a League season on this first Saturday in August, but the occasion was also unusual because the relegated Eagles were meeting the 2004-05 champions of League One in this opening match of the Coca Cola Championship in which both outfits were hoping to fare well. The afternoon was warm, increasingly sunlit and sometimes breezy but if the proceedings were eventful and the pace intense, there was equally no doubting that the confident, purposeful Hatters were the better side and deserved their 2-1 success.

Luton in fact could and perhaps should have led before they scored their first goal at this level since 1995/96 when an unmarked Steven Howard crashed a header into Palace's net from a right-sided cross a minute before half time, because Gabor Kiraly had previously repelled a penalty from Kevin Nicholls and then an Ahmet Brkovic drive with saves of the highest quality.

Palace appeared to have turned the tide seven minutes into the second half: a sparkling run by Jobi McAnuff saw the Eagles debutant felled just outside the penalty area. Luton keeper Dean Brill made a fine save, diving to his left to deny Ben Watson from the ensuing free kick but during some close range exchanges following the resultant corner, Andy Johnson netted with another header.

Most Palace fans now expected their favourites to go on to win the contest, but Luton defended capably and well as the heat and the humidity took their toll and the match became ever-increasingly fiercely contested. Then, with 11 minutes remaining, a Luton free-kick on the right was eventually turned into the Palace net by Brkovic, right in front of the disbelieving Holmesdale Road stand, from the closest possible distance to provide the visitors with the victory their display had certainly earned.



## Your M&S Croydon has a new set of fixtures.

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YOUR  
M&S



## Matchday Message Board

Happy 39th Birthday to Charlotte Smith, who sits in the upper tier, from Husband Russell, Chris, Lucy and the Thomas Family.



**Selhurst Super Draw**  
The draw that took place at last weeks match against Birmingham was number 2609 and the prize was £ 750. The winner was Kathleen Barrett of Oxted who sits in the Holmesdale Road Upper Tier

Today's match will be my fiance Amanda's first ever Palace game. Her favourite player is Shefki Kuqi, she hopes Shefki is back fit soon. Enjoy the match Amanda my darling. Love James Daley from Essex.

We welcome MK Wanderers FC, U16 B Team to Selhurst Park today who have travelled down from Milton Keynes, Bucks.

Happy 90th Birthday to Molly Frost. She is a season ticket holder in the Holmesdale Road Stand and has been a regular supporter, home and away, since the 1990 Cup Final.



Happy Birthday to James Evans who is 12 today. James travels up from Bournemouth with his brother Luke to cheer on the Eagles. All our love Mum, Dad, Luke and Adam.

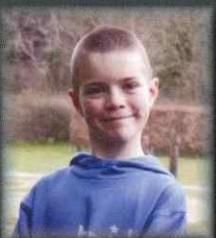
Happy Birthday to Chloe Logan who turned 7 on the 28th February. She sits in the Family Lounge with Teddy (we don't lose when Teddy is here). Love Mum, Dad, Matthew, Nanny & Grandad.

Congratulations on your Engagement to season ticket holders Marc Bernard & Charlotte Gardner. Love from Mum, Donna, Dave, Caitlyn, Aunt Rose, Uncle Colin, Haley, Chris, Brad, Claire, and Jessica x x.



Greetings to Helen Forde a devoted Eagles fan, Season ticket holder in Holmesdale Lower Stand who will be 40 on March 3rd. Helen has been supporting the Eagles since the age of 6. Love from Mum, Dad, Gerrard & Justin.

Happy 30th Birthday to Paul McNamara for the 5th March. Thank you so much for buying me a season ticket and getting me to come along to the matches. I have enjoyed it. I love you so much Seonad xxxx.



Happy 10th Birthday today for Kyle Minter. Kyle sits in the Upper tier of the Holmesdale Road Stand with his nan, Kyles favourite players are Dougie Freedman and Jobi McAnuff. He will be singing all the way home if they score and win today. Love from all the family xx



Happy 40th Birthday Wayne, lots of love from Kara, Jake, Callum, Karen, Alan and Alfie xx

OBITUARY  
It is with sadness that the club learnt of the passing of season ticket holder Billy Cox. He will be fondly remembered by Mum, Dad, Elizabeth and all family and friends.

Happy Birthday to Loren who was 12 on the 10th February. Her favourite player is Stuart Green. She hopes we will win today and Stuart is back fit soon. Happy Birthday Loren. xxx

If you would like a message in the Leicester City programme please send them by email to [communications@cpfc.co.uk](mailto:communications@cpfc.co.uk) no later than 6pm on Tuesday 6th March.



## Away from SE25

with Andrew Fifield



Rivalry is that rarest of commodities - a natural resource that will never run out. It is certainly the fuel of sport, from Foreman and Ali, to McEnroe and Borg, to Roy Keane and almost everybody.

Even in the sanitised, family-friendly world of the Premiership, grudges are a formidable power source. It is one of the reasons Sir Alex Ferguson has retained his vitality after 20 years at Manchester United, but the Scot cannot match the enmity which crackles - like a cartoon power cable - between Sam Allardyce and Arsene Wenger.

This is not simply a culture clash. The traditional view of Allardyce as bolshy shop steward and Wenger as refined intellectual has now, finally, been accepted as ludicrously outmoded: the

Bolton manager is one of England's great managerial pioneers, while Arsenal's professeur displayed his stroppy side with an absurd touchline scrap with Alan Pardew in November.

And yet if ever two managers were destined to disagree, it is these two. While Allardyce plunders the foreign market Wenger scours the globe for the cream of young talent; while Bolton have cemented their status as one of the Premiership's elite clubs with a heady mix of bruising physicality and rigorous attention to detail, Wenger steadfastly refuses to compromise his purist principles. Sam says 'potato', Arsene says 'pomme de terre' and they have no intention of calling anything off.

A pity. The feud has provided reams of good copy and it undoubtedly lends a

jagged edge to meetings such as the recent FA Cup fourth round replay, where the exhilarating pace of a stupendous game was only matched in intensity by the two managers on the touchline, but it is now beginning to stain the reputations of both men.

Wenger, it should be said, has softened his previously antagonistic approach to his friends from the north: there was an under-stated swipe at Bolton's time-wasting tactics at Highbury last season but ahead of the clubs' first FA Cup encounter in January, he was all sweetness and light. There was praise for Bolton's technical skill, some kind words for Nicolas Anelka, the latest Wanderer to be rehabilitated under Bolton's tough love regime - even Allardyce, the bogeyman himself, was eulogised rather than demonised.

Perhaps Wenger hoped his conciliatory noises would be met in kind. Not a chance. Allardyce responded with a venomous attack that was every bit as biting as one of those icy winds which sweeps down onto the Reebok Stadium from the Pennines: Arsenal were bitter at Bolton's success, Wenger a sore loser and his players a soft touch. Even last week, there were acidic complaints about Arsenal's penchant for gamesmanship.

It is easy to understand why Allardyce is unwilling to let the feud drop. His barbed comments usually provoke a response - if not from Wenger, then certainly from one of his players - and the subsequent newspaper headlines are manna from heaven for a manager who is always looking for new ways to motivate and inspire his troops.

There is also the simple fact that Allardyce enjoys inciting Wenger. He has always

been irked by the Frenchman's reluctance to engage in post-match pleasantries, deeming it plain aloofness, and although Allardyce did not coin the moniker 'Arsene Whinger', he might well have done.

But it is time for him to banish this particular bug-bear. Allardyce should have more faith in his squad, which is choc-full of experienced internationals who hardly need to be pumped up for meetings with one of the elite. More importantly, his insistences that Wenger cannot stand being humbled by his plucky charges merely reinforces the public perception of Bolton as a small club punching above their weight.

This would be no problem if Wanderers were newly promoted and still blinking against the dazzle of the Premiership's glitterati, but they patently are not. No other side outside the established Big Four have finished more consistently

in the top eight in the past three seasons and this year the club's hopes of Champions League qualification are not idle delusions of grandeur.

If Allardyce persists with his us-against-the-world mentality, Bolton will never lose their reputation as scrappers desperate to secure survival at any costs. This might keep the club in the top flight, but it is hardly positive PR when it comes to attracting top new talent and canny recruitment is the club's key to maintaining their current lofty status.

Phil Gartside, the chairman, has already warned supporters that their failure to fill the Reebok on a regular basis will harm their chances of persuading the notoriously prickly Anelka to extend his stay beyond this season.

On the subject of Arsenal, events at the Emirates Stadium last week suggested that when the club's precocious young players were receiving their footballing education, they clearly skipped the lesson teaching the importance of sporting etiquette.

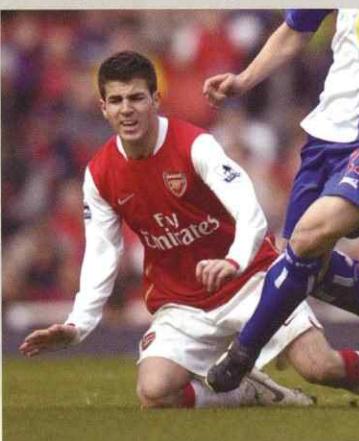
Blackburn Rovers were left smouldering after another act of petulance, on this occasion by Francesc Fabregas, threatened to further dent the club's relationship with its Premiership peers.

In the context of recent history, it cannot be deemed an aberration. Fabregas was the player who spattered the coat of Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, with pizza following a controversial 2-0 defeat at Old Trafford in 2005. More recently, in November, Arsenal's sulky reaction to a 1-0 defeat at Sheffield United prompted Phil Jagielka, the Yorkshire club's defender, to brand them 'big babies' who 'don't care to shake hands as they get very upset'.

It did not even take a defeat to prompt the latest misdemeanour. Mark Hughes, the Blackburn manager, was waiting by the players' tunnel after his dogged side had plundered an impressive goalless draw when he approached Fabregas, seeking to shake his hand.

"Fabregas asked me whether I used to play for Barcelona," Hughes said. "I told him I did, a long time ago, and he seemed to shake his head. I asked if he had a problem with that and he replied, 'Well you do not play Barcelona football'."

Fabregas, a former Barcelona trainee, has always been considered one of professional football's more intelligent, personable sorts, but the Spaniard's reputation is beginning to tarnish. His penchant for tantrums is, perhaps, not surprising, given his manager and mentor Arsene Wenger admitted three months ago that he is 'a very bad loser', but the 19-year-old is running out of friends among his fellow professionals.





## Action Replay

A second half goal from Paul Ifill saw Palace get their season back on track at Roots Hall, as that proved enough to beat Southend United in the Championship.

After a particularly tense and tight first half, the Eagles were much improved after the break and were well worthy of the three points, with boss Peter Taylor picking up his first win at his old club as an opposition manager.

Taylor had made two changes to his team following the defeat against Birmingham City the previous weekend, with James Scowcroft and Clinton Morrison recalled in place of Shefki Kuqi and Dougie Freedman.

It was Palace who had the first chance of the game too, when Ifill's cross from the right was headed wide by Matt Lawrence in the first few minutes although Southend generally started the brighter of the two sides, but couldn't force Gabor Kiraly into anything more than routine saves with a shot from Kevin Maher and a header from Richie Foran both going straight at the Hungarian.

Otherwise, Morrison forced United keeper Daryl Flahavan into a save shortly after the half hour mark, when he latched on to a flick from Scowcroft to strike a low shot at goal and with half time on the near horizon, it took a finely timed tackle in the area from Carl Fletcher to deny Mark Gower a certain chance to score.

Almost immediately after that, Fletcher was denied a goal himself when his powerful shot was blocked in the area by the chest of Peter Clarke before the loose ball was hit high over the bar by Lawrence. Ifill then flashed a left footer wide of the target after being picked out on the right hand side of the box by Gary Borrowdale's centre.

Freedman was introduced at the break and he almost made an instant impact when Kennedy picked out the Scot with a fine cross-field pass, but after working his way skilfully into the area Freedman's eventual shot was blocked well. At the other end, Freddy Eastwood tested Kiraly with a free kick but after hitting it straight at him, it never really forced the Palace keeper into too much hard work.

A decent move from Palace on the hour mark saw Scowcroft lay-off the ball for Fletcher just inside the box and his first time shot flew narrowly wide of the upright as the Eagles looked to edge in front.

That happened after 64 minutes, when Scowcroft's cross from the right picked out Freedman at the far post. He retrieved possession before pulling a ball back and Ifill made no mistake by turning it home with his left foot.



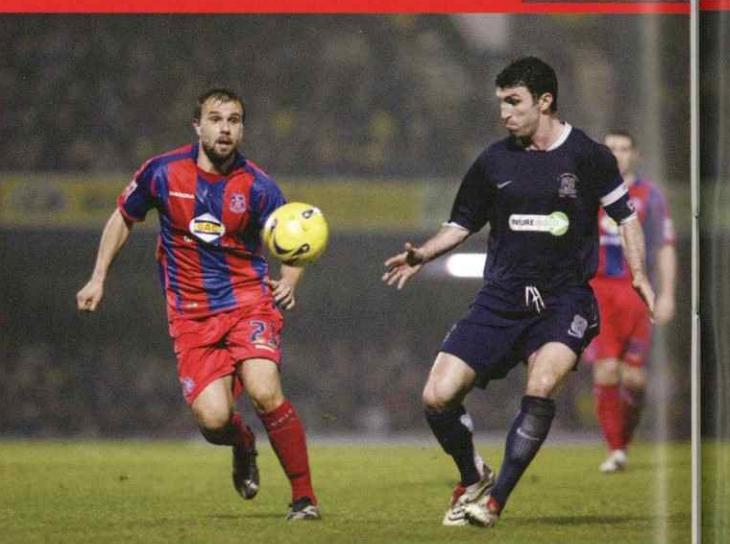
The goal gave Palace confidence and they came so close to adding a second soon after when Kennedy broke from midfield and sent a rasping left footer agonisingly wide of the target.

Southend still had hope though and it took an excellent block-tackle in the area from Mark Hudson to divert Foran's shot behind for a corner. Jamal Campbell-Ryce then fired a shot over the bar after being set up by a combination of Eastwood and Foran just outside of the Palace area but he couldn't quite wrap his foot around it.

With just less than 10 minutes to play, Palace introduced young striker Lewis Grabban to the action for his Championship debut as he replaced the hard working Morrison up front. He almost opened his account within seconds of his arrival too, showing great pace to latch onto a slide rule pass from Freedman into the box only for his left foot shot to be well saved by Flahavan.

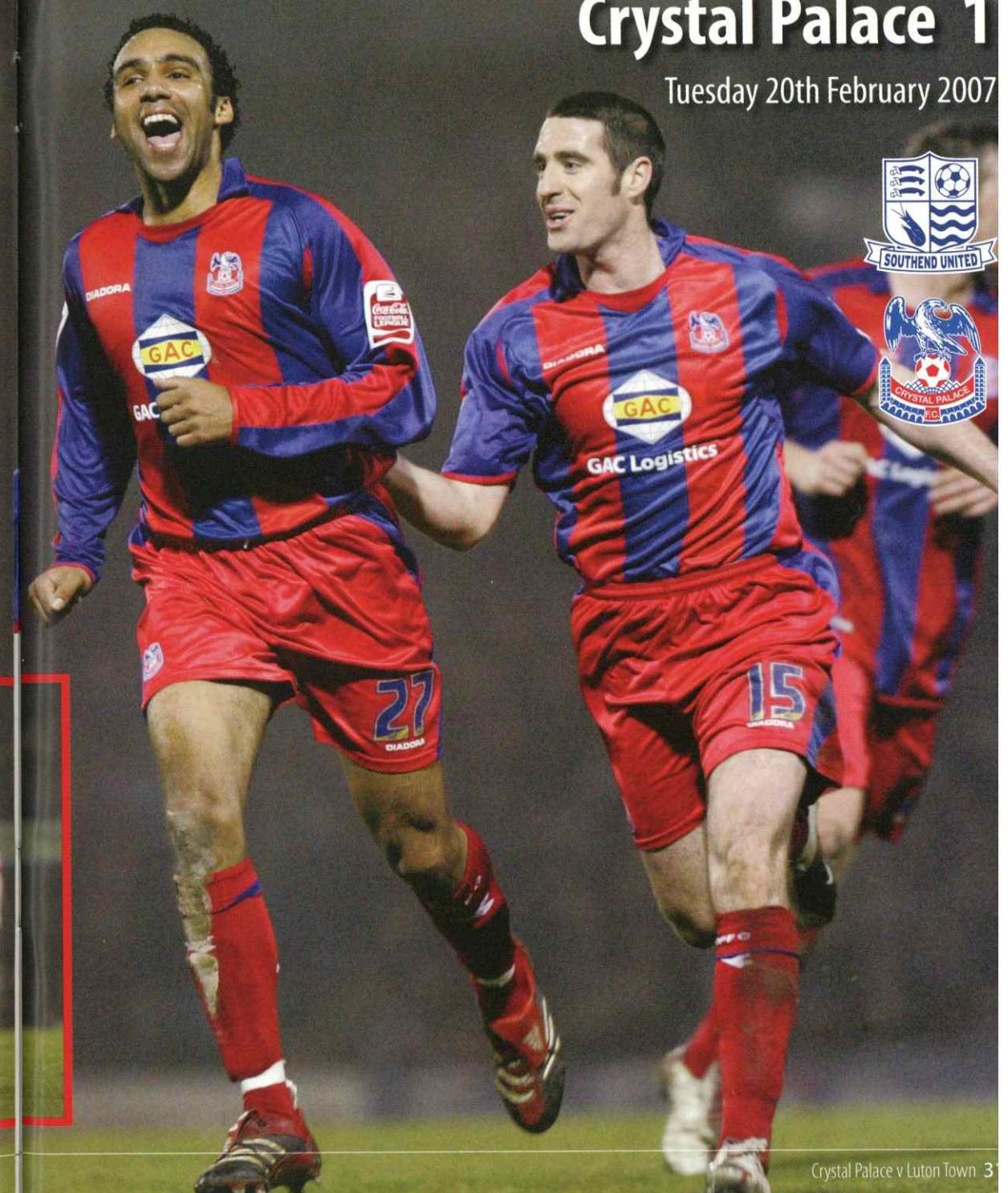
As expected, Southend tried to force pressure on the Eagles in the final five minutes, having added more numbers to their attack but it also left more space for Palace to exploit on the break and with Grabban's pace, it was always a possibility.

With the game in added time, Palace handed another League debut with Dave Martin replacing Ifill on the flank for the final few minutes. It turned out to be a winning start for both debutants too, as the Eagles comfortably held on for a clean sheet and a fourth away win of the season.



# Southend Utd 0 Crystal Palace 1

Tuesday 20th February 2007



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## On The Airwaves



## BBC London's Tom Watt

### Talks footy in his regular column

Two weeks ago now, so it's probably old news. In the time since Arsenal's televised game against Wigan at the Emirates, another referee has probably stepped forward into the limelight to be berated by managers, pundits and supporters. Phil Dowd's short spell as football's Enemy Number One has passed. I wonder whose fault it'll be this weekend that a team lost and a match official cost the hapless club in question £50 million?

Think how wound up we get watching on a Saturday. Then try and imagine what it must feel like for a manager: work all week, scheming victory over your next opponent, and then, for all but fifteen snatched minutes at half-time, you have to leave it up to your players. The other team may well throw a spanner in the works by playing half-decently themselves. And a ref might wave play on when you're convinced of the foul. All you can do is stand and suffer on the sidelines.

Little wonder, then, that Paul Jewell's eyes were popping out of his head at full-time after Arsenal's win. His rage, frustration and disappointment were as understandable as they were plain to see. He'd come within ten minutes of upsetting the odds, out-thinking Arsene Wenger by finding a way to get his relegation-threatened team to outplay illustrious and much-hyped hosts for long spells in the game. No surprise his finger was jabbing away in Phil Dowd's face about a penalty that never was and an offside goal that shouldn't have been. Surely there had to be someone to blame, after all?

The Wigan manager is currently considering his response to an FA misconduct charge. And Wigan have written to complain about the wicked Mr Dowd swearing at their players. Like I say, it'll all die down and sooner rather than later and another row will turn up somewhere to hog this Monday's back pages.

Events at the Emirates during and after the game, though, are worth recalling because seldom can ninety minutes and their aftermath have served up such a salutary reminder that, although we spend our time celebrating the fleeting moments when it all goes to plan, football matches are decided by mistakes more often than not. It's the best game in the world because it's the most unpredictable. Thanks, in large part, to the inevitable: human error.

Paul Jewell is a bright, articulate and very funny man. And, I'd guess, has taken a bit of time since to reflect on the events of two weeks ago in N5. Mistakes at vital moments certainly cost his team the result against Arsenal that their performance deserved. The referee on the day was a long way short of perfect but, to be honest, did his decisions really cost Wigan the game?

Putting a football team together is about balancing up the strengths and weaknesses of the individuals in it. If players were perfect, managers would be out of a job. Fortunately for Paul Jewell and company, they're not. And Wigan eventually succumbed to Arsenal at the Emirates because of that. Emile Heskey led the line magnificently but, when it came to taking one of the chances which came his way to decide matters, had the kind of afternoon during which hitting a cow's backside with a banjo would have been some way beyond him.

Slaughtering match officials – I'm speaking metaphorically here, you understand – is the time-honoured right of everybody else in football, not least us lot who enjoy baiting them almost as much as we enjoy cheering on our own team. But: 'That \*\*\*\*\* ref cost us the game?' I don't think so. There'll always be an over-eager centre forward – or a butter-fingered goalkeeper or a dozy defender – who'll be just as likely to do that.

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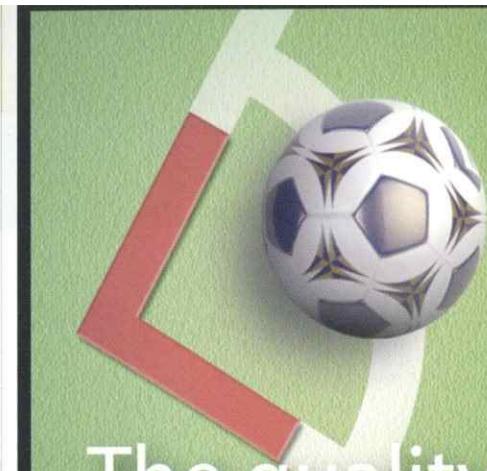
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## Community Matters



### CPFC FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY

As part of the CPFC FITC Soccer Skill Sessions programme during the last school term in 2006, children from the local region competed in 2 different 'Skill Challenges', testing their abilities and techniques for shooting and turning.

The winners were invited to attend the recent Crystal Palace FC home game against Birmingham FC on 17th February 2007, and were presented with their trophies at pitchside during the half time interval. The winners can all be seen proudly showing off their well deserved trophies, which were presented to them by Football Development Officer Michael Harrington.

**Daniel Shew and Ryan Freeman** - Langley Park Sports Centre  
**Michael Wickenden and Robert Sharp** - Priory Sports Centre  
**Lee Stanhope** - Darrick Wood Sports Centre

For further details of all participants results go to our website [www.cpfc.co.uk](http://www.cpfc.co.uk)

The next Challenge, Speedshot Star, is currently taking place. There will be further Skills Challenges throughout this term at the following venues:

Kent County Cricket Club, Worsley Bridge Road, Beckenham  
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 (Adjacent to CPFC Training Ground)  
 Darrick Wood Sports Centre, Lovibonds Avenue, Orpington  
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 Darwin Sports Centre, Jail Lane, Biggin Hill Tel: 01959 540606  
 Eric Liddell Sports Centre, Grove Park Road, Mottingham  
 Tel: 020 8851 9111  
 Langley Park Sports Centre, Hawksbrook Lane, Beckenham  
 Tel: 020 8663 1906

Pavilion Leisure Centre, Kentish Way, Bromley  
 Tel: 020 8313 9911  
 Priory Sports Centre, Tintagel Road, Orpington  
 Tel: 01689 897793  
 The Spa Leisure Centre, Beckenham Road, Beckenham  
 Tel: 020 8650 0233  
 Walnuts Leisure Centre, Lych Gate Road, Orpington  
 Tel: 01689 870533  
 Goals Soccer Centre, Elmers End Road, Beckenham  
 Tel: 020 8663 1600

Places are still available on these courses, don't miss out on this great opportunity to test out and improve your soccer skills!

For further information please contact the Community Office.  
 Tel: 020 8768 6047 Email: [info@fitc.cpfc.co.uk](mailto:info@fitc.cpfc.co.uk)

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## Palace Radio 1278am

### YOU WIN AGAIN - COMPETITION TIME

We have more top competition prizes to give away to Palace Radio listeners this week. Thanks to easytheatres.com we have a pair of tickets to see You Win Again at the Harlequin Theatre, Redhill on Friday 2nd March.

In 1977 the film Saturday Night Fever heralded the disco explosion, lifting an entire nation to its dancing feet. The Bee Gees contributed the lion's share of songs to the film, including Night Fever, Stayin' Alive, More Than A Woman, You Should Be Dancing, How Deep Is Your Love and Jive Talkin'.

Music fans are invited to celebrate the 30th anniversary of this generation-shaping movie with brand-new theatre production You Win Again.

For your chance to win a pair of tickets to this excellent show just answer this simple question:

The Bee Gees were made up of three singers - Barry, Maurice and which other Gibb brother?

Send your answer, full name, and telephone number to Palace Radio by text: 07910 06 09 19 or email [studio@palaceradio.net](mailto:studio@palaceradio.net). The deadline for entries is 5pm Monday 26th February 2007. The winner will be drawn from all correct entries. Five lucky runners-up will receive Palace Radio goodie bags.

Check out [www.palaceradio.net](http://www.palaceradio.net) for details of more competitions and give-aways.

Show Times:

**Midnight - 9am:** Non-Stop Music Mix

**9am - 10am:** The Golden Hour with Trevor Smith

**10am - 12noon:** The Late & Lazy Breakfast Show with Nigel Wearing, Sarah Hughes & Laura Ashley

**12noon - 1:30pm:** The Wibbly Wobbly World with Chris Green & Bill Relyea

**1:30pm - 3pm:** Fixture Focus with Trevor Hayes, James O'Reilly & Keith Jeffcoat

**3pm - 5pm:** Live Match Commentary with Eamonn Marren & Bill Relyea

**5pm - 6pm:** Your Shout with Dick McDonald & Clive Bowden

**6pm - Midnight:** Match Replay and Non-Stop Music Mix



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Two weeks ago today was a special occasion for one young member of the Palace squad, as the game with Leeds United at Elland Road saw Lewwis Spence introduced for his first taste of action in the Football League.

The 19-year-old became the first Palace player since Tom Soares nearly three years ago to make his League debut after rising through the club's Academy ranks, when he was introduced as a second half substitute.

Eagles boss Peter Taylor had already spoken of how he had been impressed

by Spence's attitude over the season and he had already been given a taste of life in the first team by featuring against Notts County in the Carling Cup back in August.

However, the prospect of playing in the Championship means much more though and to be introduced to things at a large and famous venue such as Elland Road will make a great memory for Spence when he looks back over his career in years to come.

*"I've always wanted to get into the first team and to make my debut at Elland Road was a great experience, although*

**the result went against us,"** said Lewwis in the aftermath of the game, which Leeds were somewhat fortunate to win by 2-1.

*"It's what you dream of as a young kid, especially after joining Crystal Palace at 13 years of age and being here ever since."*

The only slight regret that Lewwis did have about his League bow was that none of his family or friends were there to see it. Spence travelled to West Yorkshire with the squad the day before the game but had no idea that he would be involved.



# Lewwis Spence

Hailing from Elephant & Castle, it isn't the easiest trip for people to make at such short notice so he's now targeting a Championship appearance in SE25 in the near future.

*"I didn't get chance to tell my family because you are not allowed to take your phones on the coach on the way to the games so I didn't get to talk to anybody, plus I didn't know by then anyway," he explained.*

*"I obviously knew on the Friday that I was in the 18 man squad travelling up, but it wasn't until about one o'clock when we were at the ground that I*

**knew that I was on the bench.**

*"So it was after the game when I told my mum and dad about it. My mum couldn't come and my dad wanted to, but I didn't know if I was going to be involved in the match beforehand so I told him not to risk coming up.*

*"He was obviously very disappointed when he found out that I was on the bench and had come on but hopefully I can make my home debut soon though and they'll be able to watch me then."*

Spence's introduction to the

Championship couldn't have been trickier either as he entered the action soon after Leeds had taken a two goal lead to leave Palace with a real challenge to get themselves back in the game.

A 73rd minute arrival in the game, Spence certainly got involved and admitted that he didn't suffer from any nerves prior to his introduction, mainly because he didn't particularly expect to get the nod.

*"I didn't think I would actually make it out onto the pitch, but if you're on the*

*Continued on page 43*



36 LEWIS  
SPENCE





CRYSTAL PALACE FOOTBALL CLUB PRESENTS A



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## IAN IRVING

Your MC and host for the evening will be the one and only Ian Irving. Ian has quickly become a firm favourite with Crystal Palace Football Club supporters as he guides you through the night with his own unique style of humour and banter.

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Player Feature continued

bench then you've always got a chance of coming on," he added.

"I wasn't nervous sitting on the bench though because I was so caught up in the game.

"It didn't really hit me until I looked up and saw my number on the subs' board. The manager just told me to go on and give it my all, which is what I did.

"It was 1-0 and I was just getting changed and then they scored just before I came on, so it was 2-0 when I eventually came on and it was unfortunate that we couldn't get anything out of the match in the end."

A rangy midfielder, regular watchers of the reserves and youth teams from over the last couple of years will know all about his left-foot, with which he is more than capable of delivering accurate passes and crosses or devastating shots. Only recently, whilst skippering Palace in the Surrey Senior Cup, Spence netted a stunning long distance strike against Tooting and Mitcham at Imperial Fields to show just what he can do given the chance to let fly.

He can play as either a central midfielder or out on the flank where he impressed in the aforementioned cup tie against Notts County last year, but his ultimate aim is to feature regularly in the middle.

"My favourite position is in central midfield as a two, but to come on in the first team, I'm just happy to play anywhere I am put and I can have no arguments at my age," he laughed.

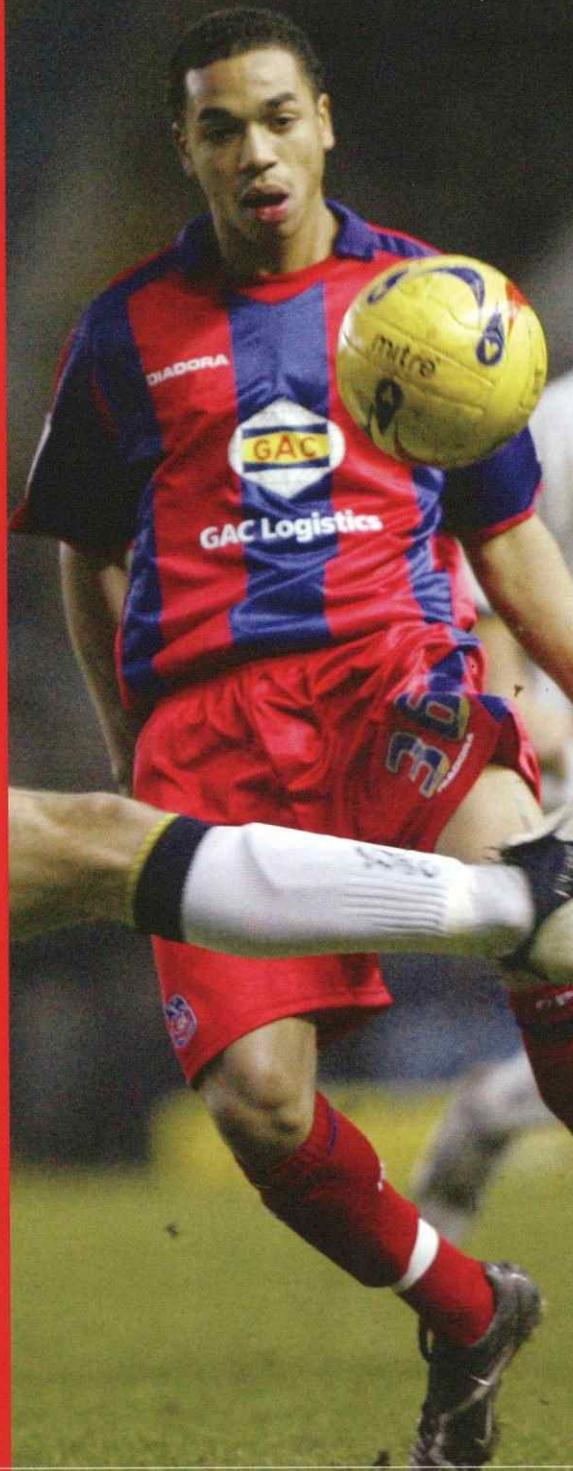
"I've got a lot of energy and I try to use my left foot as best as I can. I've scored a few goals for the reserves now, so hopefully I can produce that for the first team."

Taylor has also spoken only earlier this week of how he is hoping to see some more of his younger players in action before the season is out and that could mean further opportunities for Spence and maybe some of his team-mates from the reserve and Academy teams in the next two months.

For now though, Spence is just keen to keep his head down and work hard at securing another appearance in the Championship.

"Hopefully if I keep doing well in training I will get my opportunity again," he said. "It's been a great start and hopefully I have a lot more to come."

"Now I've had a taste of it, I definitely want some more."



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## Life in our League

with Andrew Fifield



Leeds might be dangerously close to assuming the same fallen idol status as Nottingham Forest, but that has not stopped chairman Ken Bates sticking the boot into every Championship rival that dares to cross his path.

The Bearded One - who was afforded the, presumably affectionate, nickname 'Chairman Mao' during his time at Chelsea - has already partaken in a spectacular spat with Cardiff City and, in particular, their chief executive Peter Ridsdale, who was barred from his old Elland Road boardroom earlier this season after apparently celebrating his new team's winning goal too enthusiastically.

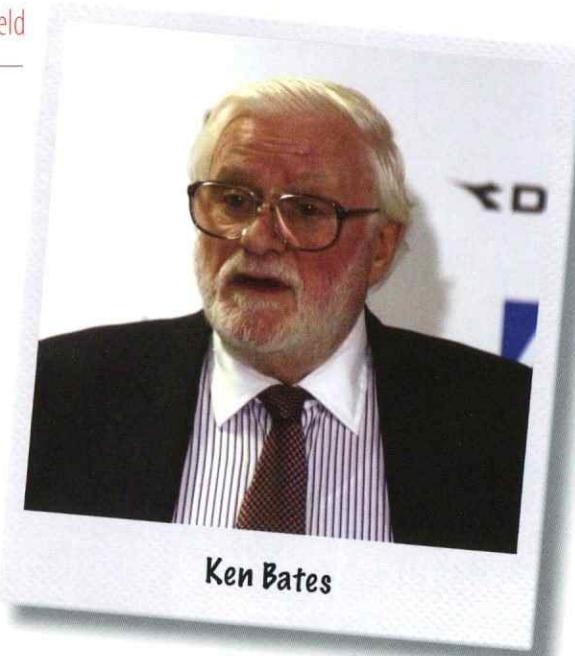
Now, Bates has crossed swords with Queens Park Rangers. The septuagenarian used his programme notes for Tuesday's meeting with Rangers to sneer at the club's recent set-to with the Chinese Olympic squad, urging the Londoners to curb their "kung-fu" tendencies in west Yorkshire.

It all seems rather unnecessary, if only too predictable - as, indeed, was Rangers' response in grinding out a useful goalless draw. Time will tell how much this result means for both clubs.

Rangers, it should be said, are an easy target at the moment. John Gregory's appointment as manager in September precipitated an inevitable upturn in results, but the arrival of winter prompted a spectacular slide and now the club cannot make it through a week without being beset by another crisis it would seem.

Results have deteriorated, morale was dented by the shameful scenes with the Chinese at the club's Harlington training ground, the assistant manager Richard Hill has been suspended following his arrest for his alleged role in the incident and eyebrows were raised after the publication of the club's yearly accounts, which differed in millions of pounds from the figures approved by the club's shareholders.

Now, to cap it all, the goalkeeping coach Tony Roberts - who has spent most of his professional life at Loftus Road - has been suspended in mysterious circumstances by Gregory. In addition press manager Jackie Bass departed just days before from her role overseeing media relations. Among a host of unsavoury rumours, it has been suggested that Bass was unhappy with her treatment by Rangers and is currently investigating the



Ken Bates

possibility of suing the club for unfair dismissal. More on that to follow it would seem.

It all suggests Gregory - who was recently given a very public vote of confidence by Gianni Paladini, the club's colourful chairman - might be feeling the strain of the club's relegation battle. Certainly his mood will not have been helped by the speculation last week linking Joe Kinnear with a move to west London if Rangers fail to pull clear of danger.

The events of the last week suggest that planning is afoot at St. James Park. Glenn Roeder, the manager, has been doing the rounds of the Championship, scouting some of the division's elite talent as he prepares to strengthen his squad in the summer.

The former West Ham boss took in West Bromwich Albion's recent FA Cup meeting with Middlesbrough in order to check on the progress of Curtis Davies, the Baggies' cultured central defender, and then followed that up on Tuesday with a visit to Coventry, where Gareth Bale was in action for Southampton.

Both players will cost in excess of 8m - especially if one, or both, are promoted at the end of the season - but if recent history has taught us anything, it is that Newcastle are rarely shy when it comes to summer spending.



## Ticket Info

**Match:** Burnley

**Venue:** Turf Moor, Burnley

**Date:** Saturday 3rd Mar 2007

**Kick-off:** 3pm



Tickets for this match are now on general sale. Prices:

**Adults:** £18 **OAPs:** £11.50 **U16s:** £9

No concession price on matchday

**Match:** Leicester City

**Venue:** Selhurst Park, London

**Date:** Saturday 10th Mar 2007

**Kick-off:** 3pm



Tickets for this match are now on general sale. Prices:

**Adults:** £25-45 **Concessions:** £10-30

**Match:** West Bromwich Albion

**Venue:** The Hawthorns

**Date:** Wednesday 14th Mar 07

**Kick-off:** 7:45pm



Tickets for this match are now on general sale. Prices:

**Adults:** £23 **OAPs & 16-18s:** £14 **U16s:** £11

Selhurst Park Stadium Plan



## Through The Palace Gates

with Chris Waters

### Leicester City

Saturday 10th March 2007

Coca-Cola Championship

**Key Player:** Iain Hume

Our final five home games of the season begin next month when we host the newly re-galvanised Leicester City, who arrive here having just been taken over by new owner Milan Mandaric and seemingly on the crest of a wave.

The former Portsmouth Chairman had been trying to seize control at the Walkers Stadium for a couple of months and could finally announce his takeover a few weeks ago with the Midlands club providing a tremendous fanfare for the American-Serb's arrival. He had done a fantastic job previously at Fratton Park by taking Pompey from Championship also-rans to a comfortable Premiership outfit full of international stars in just a few short years. Given the fact that City already have a top class stadium and training facilities in place, Mandaric will feel he already has a head start from what he inherited at Fratton Park and will now be looking to oversee a development of the club to take them back into the top flight.

### CHANGES AFOOT?

Mandaric's arrival has already seen speculation over the future of Foxes boss Rob Kelly, with many news outlets believing that his days at the Walkers Stadium are now numbered. There have been rumours that former Palace boss Iain Dowie was all set to take over once Mandaric had completed his takeover at the club and both parties admitted that talks had taken place following his subsequent arrival at near neighbours Coventry City.

However, Kelly will be determined to prove his worth at the helm now and over the next few weeks when Mandaric will be weighing up his options. Kelly was given the role on a full-time basis last summer after impressing on a caretaker basis at the back end of the 2005/06 season following Craig Levein's departure.

It has been a frustrating season to date for City though, as they've never been in close contention with the promotion chasing pack yet haven't really been sucked into a scrap for points at the bottom end of the table. With high expectations still

surrounding the Walkers Stadium following the club's success in the top flight under Martin O'Neill nearly 10 years ago now, Kelly will be desperate to be the man who helps Mandaric try to bring the good times back.

### HITMAN

One player who has caught the eye this season and had the City fans on their feet more often than not is the diminutive striker Iain Hume. A £500,000 signing from Tranmere Rovers just over a year ago, the Canadian international initially took his time to settle into life in the Championship but has proved to be a real nuisance to opposition defences this season.

With an abundance of pace, plenty of skill, mobility and the knack of popping up all over the pitch when required, Hume has found the net on nine occasions so far this season and obviously likes to play off a target man as his partnerships so far this season have proved.

The 23-year-old can also be used in a wide position or just in behind the strikers, as his liking for a spectacular long range shot has been noted by many sides just too late in recent seasons.

### FOX HUNT

Kelly believes his side are close to finding the right formula for success in the Championship too. Following last week's hard earned win over Burnley at Turf Moor, the former Wolves player said: "I think we showed the other side of our game. We have played a lot better than that and not won - but we still showed plenty of character and resilience. It's another clean sheet and that is something that we work very hard on as a team. We will take the three points and scarper off back to the Midlands."

"We just hung on in there for as long as we possibly could. Our goal probably summed it all up really - a scrappy own goal but we battled away for it, we didn't lie down and that's great credit to the players."

When the two sides last met at the Walkers Stadium back in October of last year, it ended all square in a 1-1 draw when Tom Soares opened the scoring with his first goal of the season before a hotly disputed penalty was awarded to City, with that man Hume beating Gabor Kiraly from 12 yards to level things up.

## On The Road

### Burnley

Saturday 3rd March

Coca-Cola Championship

**Kick-off:** 3pm



### Coaches:

Depart Holmesdale Road at 8am and are priced at £32 for Eagle Gold members, £35 for Season Ticket holders and members and £38 for guests.

### By Road:

Exit M6 at Junction 29 and onto the M65. Exit the M65 at junction 10 and follow signs for 'Towneley Hall'. This road eventually goes past Turf Moor.

### By Rail:

The nearest station is Burnley Manchester Road. From here, exit the station and walk down Centenary Way, from here, Turf Moor is clearly visible. When you reach the roundabout at the bottom of the road, go right down Yorkshire Street, which becomes Harry Potts Way and the ground is on your left hand side.

From Burnley Central, follow signs for the Town Centre and then head left towards the Gala Bingo Hall. From here, walk down

Yorkshire Street and use instructions from above.

### By Bus:

Bus Routes: The Bus Station is situated relatively close to the ground, just off Centenary Way. Leave the station and turn right towards the Gala Bingo Hall and go under the aqueduct onto Yorkshire Street. Then, follow the instructions from above.

### Parking:

Most of the surrounding streets have parking restrictions on a matchday (Saturday and Tuesday), so it is advisable for away supporters to use the Cricket Club on Belvedere Road or the car parks and road spaces further up Belvedere Road.



## Booking Your Tickets



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Saturday non-matchdays  
9:30am-12:30pm



### West Bromwich Albion

Wednesday 14th March

Coca-Cola Championship

**Kick-off:** 7:45pm

### Coaches:

Depart Holmesdale Road at 2:30pm and are priced at £23 for Eagle Gold members, £27 for Season Ticket holders and members and £30 for guests.

### By Road:

Use M5 motorway to junction 1. Take the A41 road signposted for Birmingham. There is also a local sign showing 'Hawthorns Park & Ride'. The stadium is visible immediately after the motorway island is cleared, and is approximately 600 metres to the Birmingham side of junction one. Turn right into Halfords Lane for the stadium, administration office at the Tom Silk Building and for match day car parking.

### By Rail:

The Hawthorns railway station is situated on Halfords Lane, 250 metres south of the stadium itself. There is also a Metro tram

link which services the main route from Birmingham to Wolverhampton.

### Parking:

The club has its own car park alongside the Tom Silk Building in Halfords Lane. The car park is stewarded, and costs £4 for the duration of the game. There are other car parks, such as along Halfords Lane, but street parking there is limited. None is allowed on the Birmingham Road.

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## From the Archives

with Ian King

Ian King looks back to a match between Crystal Palace and our visitors from seasons gone by.

Tuesday 22nd August 1978, Division Two

Crystal Palace 3 Luton Town 1

**PALACE:** John Burridge, Paul Hinshelwood, Kenny Sansom, Nicky Chatterton, Jim Cannon, Billy Gilbert, Peter Nicholas, Jerry Murphy, David Swindlehurst, Mike Elwiss, Vince Hilaire.

**LUTON:** Milija Alekic, Kirk Stephens, Steve Sherlock, Mal Donaghy, Chris Turner, Mark Aizlewood, Ricky Hill, Lil Fuccillo (Godfrey Ingram), Brian Stein, Bob Hatton, David Moss.

By the end of the 1977-78 season Eagles manager Terry Venables had bled a number of the Youth Cup winning team and was happy with the way they were developing in Division Two so that, in the close season, he only recruited one player and that was Preston's Mike Elwiss, whom he tracked down while the striker was on holiday in Spain. On the other hand Luton manager David Pleat had carried out a massive turnover of players with nine departing and eight arriving at Kenilworth Road, and of the new faces Turner, Aizlewood, Hatton and Moss would be turning out in this evening game at Selhurst Park.

The season had opened three days earlier with Palace (20-1 shots for the title!) earning a point with a 1-1 draw with the team that had ended the previous campaign in fifth place, Blackburn Rovers and it was the same line-up for this first home game of the season. Luton had begun in fine form as well by defeating Oldham 6-1 at home with four players sharing the goals.

### FIVE MAN MOVE STARTS THE SCORING

Palace fans had watched the young players begin to blossom and in this encounter with the Hatters they had a foretaste of what was to come as the team gradually blunted any opposition that Luton could muster. Palace's opening goal came in the first half and was an example of the skill and endeavour in them as a move down the left hand side started with captain Jim Cannon giving the ball to his left-back Kenny Sansom who made progress down that side to swap passes with Jerry Murphy and then Mike Elwiss before he crossed for David Swindlehurst to head home a perfectly executed goal. The joy was short-lived however as within minutes Luton were awarded a penalty when Peter Nicholas brought down Mark Stein in the area and Lil Fuccillo converted his second spot-kick in three days.

### YOUNG GUNS FIRE IN THE SECOND HALF

If the Palace fans were pleased with the first half, the second

half was even better with the Hatters having no real answer to Palace's play. Mike Elwiss provided Vince Hilaire with the second goal as our young right winger just got in front of Sherlock to glance the ball home (now how many goals did Vince score with his head?). Hilaire himself displayed his immaculate skills effectively as he then went by four defenders to present Nicky Chatterton with an opening but his shot hit an upright and then Jerry Murphy, showing much more confidence in this half, waltzed through with a display of fine dribbling as he too found the woodwork. However the Irishman was not to be denied and it was Mike Elwiss again who did the spadework on the right hand side and threaded the ball through for Murphy to calmly push the ball home for the Eagles' third goal in the final minutes of the game. Even David Pleat conceded after the final whistle that Luton had been second best on the night as the majority of the spectators in the 17,880 crowd wended their way home in the summer evening exhilarated by the game they had seen.

### A SEASON TO REMEMBER

Looking back on this momentous season that saw the club win only its second (out of three) Championship and easily its most miserly defence ever in the Football League, it sometimes gets overlooked that it was virtually the same set of players that turned out for each game, the only main changes taking place when right-back Paul Hinshelwood was missing eleven games from October following a cartilage operation, Steve Kember returned to the club and took over the midfield position of Nicky Chatterton in November and the unfortunate knee injury that Mike Elwiss sustained in December that ended his professional career. By the time this happened Ian Walsh had replaced Vince Hilaire in the line-up and Elwiss's enforced absence allowed Hilaire back in the team on a more regular basis while Terry Fenwick filled in for any players missing an odd game or two through a minor niggle or suspension. Towards the end of the season Venables carried out a 'belt and braces' exercise by

Vince Hilaire



Jerry Murphy



# CULT HEROES

with Alex Warner

## Tomorrow's Cult Heroes?

No more doom and gloom or harping on about the heroes of yesteryear! Let's focus on tomorrow and a quest for someone from the current squad to join Dougie, Hughesy and Clint as cult heroes.

With all the play-off talk dissipating, we can maintain interest by offering a motivational challenge to one of the players to seize the opportunity, step forth and be a Palace cult hero. The prize is worthy of the greatest reality television show – an article about you in this column, a crazy song from the stands in your name and perhaps a place in volume 3 of Don Madgwick's book "Palace Heroes and Legends"! It could be like "Strictly come Dancing" or "Dancing on Ice" with prospective cult heroes teaming up with former Palace legends, training together all week and then thrust in front of judge Jordan, who might toss him a quid or two for his worthy cause. Accomplished old-stager Terry Byfield could be Bruce Forsyth and Foxy could encourage us to text in our cult hero, rather than the "Man of the Match". What's more, even when we're losing, he might break tradition and actually announce the winner, hint, hint, Rob....

"Strictly Cult Hero" might be an opportunity for struggling players to revitalise their fortunes or for those entering their twilight years, enjoying a Darren Gough, Ulrika Johnson or Mark Ramprakash late flourish. After all, Palace cult heroes aren't always dashing spring-chicks in their prime – just look at Dean Austin, Mickey Droy, Alan Pardew and Gary O'Reilly.

For those suggesting this year's team lacks character, it's worth pointing out that many featured in this column had to bide their time and win over the terrace boo-boys. Several didn't have the looks, physique, general demeanour and gravitas of cult

heroes (crikey we even had one chap called "Doris") and for this reason alone we can use the final months of the season to give some of our team a makeover and cultivate cult heroes.

Indeed, the first seeds are already being planted. Since joining Palace, Paul Ifill's energy, first touch and surging runs have sometimes been the sole excitement in matches. The mystique of his hair-do (is it fuzzy, cropped or dreadlocked?), coupled with the "I feel good" song played after he scores, strengthens his case for cult heroism, whilst his audacious CV, including a Millwall past and Brighton present (he was born in Seagull territory), adds to the melting pot.

Then there's Scowie. We've not seen much of him, but there's something I like about James Scowcroft. In his rare appearances, he's compensated for all the fruitless huff and puff that precedes his emergence off the bench, getting in the right places, forcing a good save and generally troubling opposition defences. A better header of the ball at Palace there isn't and his attitude whilst being frustrated on the sidelines has been the epitome of professionalism. Could this much travelled veteran enjoy a renaissance with a proper first team run?

Stuart Green is our midfield maestro in the making having also made fleeting, but memorable, appearances. His goals against Cardiff and Norwich showed promise whilst his calming down of big Shefki against the Canaries only to feel the wrath of an angry temper, earned him David v Goliath-type sympathy.

What of Matt Lawrence – whose arrival-like fellow veteran left back Dean Austin – was greeted with scepticism? Like Deano, Matt's rugged style is not always attractive



to the eye, but he has gradually become an effective, all-effort, uncompromising and obdurate influence in the back-four and increasingly impressed with tough tackling and attacking runs. His potential cult-hero status is enhanced by him not remotely looking or talking like a footballer and his shunning the pizzazz that accompanies the lifestyle, preferring a night of indie music down at the Brixton Academy than posing with the WAGS up West.

The portents of doom got it wrong when they claimed our team was colourless and clueless – potential cult heroes are ready and waiting. We could be in awe of Shefki Kuqi. The way in which he pushes out his chest, flexes his bulging biceps and steams towards the opposing goalie is enamouring alone – not forgetting that ridiculous acrobatic goal-celebration, would have had ballroom judges from Blackpool to Brighton salivating. He's also hard as nails.

We've also gentle giant Leon Cort who might earn cult hero accolade just for the crazy fact that as a centre back he's our joint top scorer! Another ray of hope has been Carl Fletcher. Our captain suffered the Tony Popovic curse of programme columns, in being sidelined for so long with injury that our only insights into him were through his anodyne notes on these pages. Dull he wasn't, though and Fletch's recent pitch poundings through the heart of the midfield, coupled with that incredible pile-driver against Hull have proved promising. He's also got the passionate streak that's a pre-requisite for cult heroes – witness his booking earning tantrum last week having thwacked the ball against the Arthur Wait advertising hoardings in fury.

Who said life was dull at Selhurst? "We've got Prince Harry" (as the song goes!) and it's true we've Rock Hudson too, whilst

Speroni's ever-changing hair-do and Gabor's pyjamas provide plenty of interest. Even off the field, there are candidates – Rob Fox for his blind optimism in the face of defeat, which climaxed with a quivering, almost desperate last, "come-on" seconds after announcing the substitutes' appearance last weekend whilst everyone had long given up hope. Surely an award is due for Peter Taylor for dreaming up (in the bath?) a half-time competition just to remind him of former pin-up model Fiona Richmond's bathtime frolics on the training ground at Palace in 1976 (c'mon Pete, stop all this denial – it was your idea and you were one of the players hiding under the water at the time...).

So, the gauntlet has been laid down and yesteryear's legends may return to woo the judges and reignite the careers of tomorrow's cult heroes with their expert tutelage. If you're passing the Beckenham

Training Ground this week, don't be surprised to see Don Rogers juggling his balls with fellow winger Tommy Black. Watch out too for Mark Dennis surging across Copers Cope Road into Gambardo's kiddies' play centre, pursued by Fletch, with their fists clenched at bemused toddlers as if they were the junior section in the Arthur Wait enclosure against Spurs in 1989. Believers in parallel universe will also think their Christmas and birthdays have come at once when defensive look-a-likes Eric Young and Leon Cort play pat-a-cake whilst comparing their size. And, if you come across Mickey Droy doing a pirouette – en dehors – followed by a backward somersault before tossing Darren Ward in the air, catching him with his back foot and doing The Fandango as a climax – then you know we're all doomed and the season's far from over!

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## Sounding Off

with Rob Fox



Hi there,

Living on the south coast and coming under the Meridian TV channel, I rarely get to see any Palace related items on the local news, so tonight (Wednesday) I made sure that I watched the 6 o'clock local bulletins so as to be able to watch the goal that clinched the points down at Southend last night. I'd like to take the opportunity of apologising to my wife, my dog, and the neighbours for startling them all when they showed Paul's goal! The commentator said that 'Palace's Paul Ifill was first to react. ...' And the next thing, sorry I couldn't help myself, yours truly was belting out 'OWWWWWWWWWWWWWWW, IFILL GOOD, de de de de de de, I KNEW THAT I WOULD NOW!!!! etc etc'!

I feel good (sorry!) about the way that Paul has fitted in with the team. When he got the man of the match award in the game against Ipswich, it wasn't just for his goal, but for his all round performance. What I noticed is though is that he really started to turn it on after he had scored. It just goes to prove how a goal can boost confidence in a player. And again against Birmingham, he showed just how committed a player he is. I really hope that he goes from strength to strength and proves to us just what a great buy he was!

We have some interesting fixtures coming

up haven't we? And it seems, as has been said before, that teams are beating each other when on paper the matches should be foregone conclusions. I have to say that of the teams that I have seen at Selhurst Park this season, the only one that really impressed me was West Bromwich Albion. They looked a really good disciplined side that also had a bit of flair about them. Another team that I think are a credit to their fans are Plymouth Argyle. They have been pretty consistent in the league, and as we know, Ian Holloway's team have progressed to the quarter finals of the FA Cup, having been drawn at home to Watford, a very winnable game for the Pilgrims at Home Park.

Other teams that are there or there abouts the top 8 places are there mainly because they have recently been consistent. As I type, we are 9 points off of 6th place, admittedly with an inferior goal difference of say, Southampton who are +16, but if, if we were to string a run of results together, and the other clubs continue to beat each other, who knows what twists there are going to be come May 6th! We still have to play some of the teams who at the moment are above us, but hey, we wouldn't be Palace fans if we didn't have some sort of belief that we could work our way up the table!

Right, time to bring you up to date with

some of the new music that is now available. The Kaiser Chiefs released their new single 'Ruby' last Monday. The single sees the band raring to get back into gear! It's already gathered massive airplay and this sing-a-long tune is bound to do well in the charts. A couple of weeks ago I played the track from The Twang, 'Wide Awake'. I can now tell you that the release date has been set for the 12th March. Check it out today! The last single to be featured today is the new one from The Red Hot Chili Peppers, 'Desecration Smile'! It has all the hallmarks of a classic Peppers single, and confirms the enormous success attributed to the bands massive selling album 'Stadium Arcadium'.

Right, time for 'Foxy's Funny'!

It was my wife's birthday the other day. I bought her a new bag and a belt! She says the Hoover has never worked better! (Thanks Steve!)

That's it from me, I really want you all to be loud, be proud and be Palace here this afternoon!

'Come on you EAGLES!!!'

Enjoy the afternoon.

Rob



## Fans' Eye View

with Laurie Dahl

After our hard won unbeaten run was ended we've now suffered two reverses in the last three games that some may say has all but ended our play-off dreams. This season now needs to be a springboard for the next. A stronger challenge needs to be made next year and the team being together for this somewhat frustrating year will hopefully help them hit the ground running in 2007/08.

Peter Taylor's signings are beginning to settle. Everyone has been impressed with the form club captain Carl Fletcher has displayed recently. Having found the net a couple of times and tested various keepers with stinging shots from distance, Fletcher has been showing the form that made West Ham fans rate him so highly. His tackling, and that of the team in general, was at its toughest for the big game with Birmingham last week. There were some crunching interceptions in the centre of the park as Palace largely nullified the high flying Brummies.

There was only a moment of inspiration that separated the sides. The skill of a £4m man of precocious talent, Gary McSheffrey, sealed it. Nicklas Bendtner, one of Arsenal's worldwide youngsters that give the Gunners two whole sides challenging for honours, plus the loanees like the young Dane combined with the big money, yet still bargain, McSheffrey to tee up Cameron Jerome. Last season the be-corn-rowed Yorkshireman caused Fitz Hall a barrel load of problems, being unlucky to have a goal chalked off for a slight foul. This year he got the only goal of the game with the neat turn and shot that left Gabor Kiraly with no chance.

The pilloried Steve Bruce bemoaned criticism that his side don't play with enough flair post match. Saying that this term is his hardest in management, the Geordie pointed to the enormous expectation following their relegation last season. He pointed to McSheffrey, Bendtner and Jerome as examples of the flair the critics say his side lack. It is

sobering to face two £4m strikers, with the talented £2.5m Rowan Vine in reserve. Vine has regularly shown what he can do against Palace and Luton will be disappointed to be without the former Portsmouth man.

It just shows the spending power of the Blues that they can make clubs like Coventry and the Hatters offers they cannot refuse. The Sky Blues certainly collapsed without McSheffrey, costing Micky Adams his job and new boss, our old friend Iain Dowie, will have a rebuilding job to do. We saw here what an impact Dowie can have on a club. Palace may have their work cut out to repeat their four scores at the Ricoh next season.

Bruce has certainly recruited the cream of the young talent in the Championship. Jerome is just 20-years-old, McSheffrey at 24 has the football world at his tricky feet, Bendtner is but 19, although he's unlikely to be released by Arsene Wenger like Sebastian Larsson, 21.

Bruce's emphasis on youth hasn't stretched to playing his son, Alex, who moved, on a free, to Ipswich, arch enemies of Norwich, the side where his father made his name. That's not surprising when one considers Alex's peculiar behaviour. The centre half recently apologised to football supporters for his actions on reappearing for the restart of matches. I didn't notice from my seat in the Lower Tier whether he performed his party piece when coming on as a second half substitute for Ipswich recently. He is notorious for vomiting when leaving the players tunnel, on his way onto the pitch. He apparently attributes this to leaving the warmth of the dressing room and going out into the fresh 'winter' air. Nerves must play a role in that surely. Bruce is in famous company after Zinedine Zidane's famous pre-penalty puke against England in Euro 2004. Beckham also spewed in Germany in the summer. Is there a trend here? Let's hope not for those of a sensitive disposition. It's not quite what

the Croydon Advertiser Family Stand want to witness. It's the opposition manager they want to see looking sick.

You know you're knocking on a bit when the sons of players you watched are plying their trade. If it's not Shaun and Bradley Wright-Philips, or Bruce it's Birmingham's Stephen Clemence, son of England keeper Ray. It's probably at this point that an old git like me realises that Palace aren't going to call you, no matter how severe the injury crisis. A friend of mine fulfilled a dream when playing in Geoff Thomas' FA Cup Final reunion with Manchester

United. Neil Ashton, a respected journalist for the Daily Mail, played well in the Palace line up. I wonder if Geoff will let him repeat the trick in the forthcoming rematch of the famous 1990 FA Cup semi-final, the finest tie ever seen in the history of the FA Cup.

The game is set to be played on Tuesday 20th March here at Selhurst Park. Make sure you get tickets to celebrate the Eagles heroes of yesteryear. Tickets can be bought in advance for £15 for adults (£20 on the night) and £5 for concessions. It's sure to be a great night,

in aid of a wonderful cause, the Geoff Thomas Foundation. The rematch of the final was an entertaining night that was thoroughly enjoyed by all who saw it last year. Apparently Andy Gray's been working on his, ahem, fitness. I'm not sure whether Andy Thorn's been treading the pavements of Carshalton in a strict fitness regime... we'll see. Certainly the chance to repeat the downfall of Alan Hansen and co is not to be missed. Alan Pardew might have too much on his hands down at the Valley. A famous face missing from last year's charity match was Nigel Martyn. The Cornishman with the frying pan hands

has confirmed he will be down for the Liverpool match. And this time Ian Wright will be fit to play alongside Mark Bright. Imagine if Satchmo had been able to play at Villa Park, it would've been 7-3 at least. I can't wait for the game.

Back to today, we face Luton Town. It's high time we got one over Mike Newell's side. I'm sure Taylor will have the boys primed for a good one.

I hope you enjoy the game.

Come on you P's!

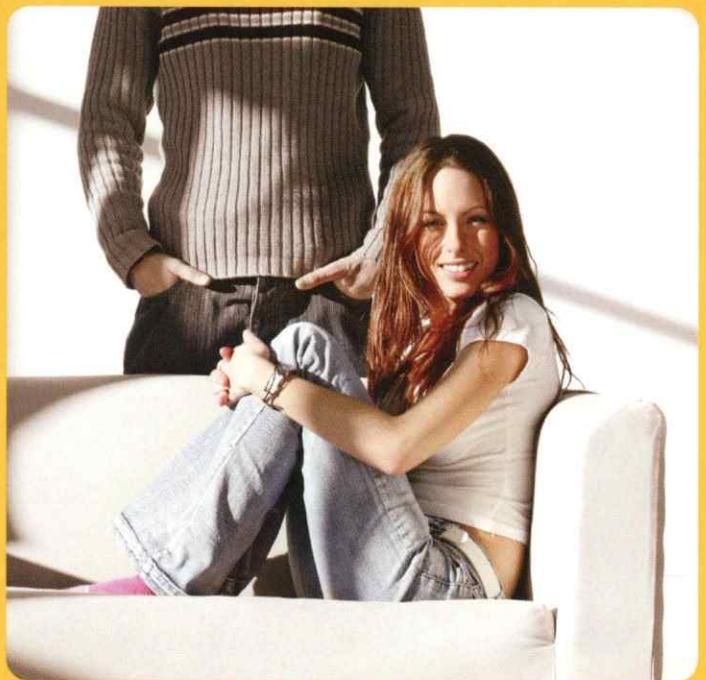


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### Today's Mascots

Please offer a warm welcome to our lucky mascots this afternoon ...

**Laura Adams** is 11 years old and attends Thomas Becket RC Primary School. Laura's hobbies include football, karate and netball. She loves everything about CPFC and enjoys being goalie for Croydon Borough Girls FC. Laura's favourite Palace Player is Scott Flinders. Have a great day as mascot Laura!



Laura Adams

**Elijah Myers** is 5 years old and goes to Beulah Infants School. Elijah enjoys drawing, using the computer and music. His favourite Palace players are Jobi McAnuff and Clinton Morrison. Elijah is our lucky winner of the Junior Eagles draw to be a mascot! Enjoy your day Elijah!



Elijah Myers

Poppy Roche

**Poppy Roche** is 12 years old and goes to Bullers Wood School. Poppy loves to shop until she drops! She also likes sports and especially adrenalin rides at theme parks, she has completed them all! Poppy's favourite Palace Player is Dougie Freedman and she loves watching Simon Jordan giving his money away on TV.... Can she have some?!



**William Roche** is 8 years old and attends Parish CE School. William is music mad and his other interests include football, Dr Who, swimming, dancing and performing. William loves to be outdoors and has started football training after school. His favourite Palace player is Shefki Kuqi. Have an awesome day William!



William Roche

Finally please welcome our mascot for Luton Town today, **Richard Owen**. Richard is 14 years old and goes to Cardinal Newman School in Luton. Richard enjoys playing football and watching Luton. His favourite player is Kevin Foley. Enjoy your day at Selhurst Park Richard!

Richard Owen



## Palace Ladies

**Crystal Palace** 4  
**Meridian** 2

The match against Meridian in the quarter finals of the League Cup was one of great anticipation, since Palace had beaten Meridian a couple weeks before. True to form, Palace came out attacking from the word go.

It was a cat and mouse game in midfield, as their forward was marked out of the game by Lauren, whilst Meridian relied on the long ball and this paid off when one of their players latched on to it and tucked it away in the bottom corner of the net to give them the lead.

There were few chances falling to either side until late in the first half, when Palace were awarded a free kick. Gina stepped up, placed the ball and unleashed a shot into the top right hand of the goal, which the Meridian keeper had no chance to save.

The second half was pretty much the same, until a lapse in concentration by the Palace defence allowed a Meridian player to slip into our six yard box and net for their second goal.

At that point, most of the crowd thought that it was all over and Meridian went on to defend en masse.

However, there was more to come from Palace and from a goal kick, Gina picked up the ball in the midfield, beat two players and with only two minutes to go, released a blinding shot from outside the box to level the scores up at 2-2 and send the game into extra time.

With the Meridian players looking tired, Palace took advantage and Lauren scored after beating a defender, by smashing the ball into the back of the net to make it 3-2 to Palace.

The final goal came not long after, when Maises beat two defenders following a goal mouth scramble where the Meridian defence failed to clear the ball and she made the score 4-2 to end a nail biting cup tie. The player of the match for Crystal Palace was awarded to Lauren.

### Ladies Fixtures 2006/07

#### 2006

Aug 20	<b>Watford</b>	<b>L 1-5</b>
Sept 3	<b>Keynsham Town</b>	<b>W 6-3</b>
Sept 17	<b>Bristol City</b>	<b>D 2-2</b>
Sept 24	Millwall Lionesses	L 2-6
Oct 1	<b>Brighton &amp; HA</b>	<b>D 1-1</b>
Oct 4	<b>Barnet</b>	<b>W 2-1</b>
Oct 22	Portsmouth	L 0-4
Oct 29	<b>Portsmouth</b>	<b>D 1-1</b>
Nov 5	Reading Royals	L 0-4
Nov 8	Watford	L 1-2
Nov 12	<b>Reading Royals</b>	<b>L 0-1</b>
Nov 19	Keynsham Town	L 0-1
Dec 3	AFC Wimbledon	L 1-2
Dec 10 FA CUP	Bristol City	D 1-1
Dec 17	<b>Southampton</b>	<b>P-P</b>

#### 2007

Jan 14	Brighton & HA	L 1-3
Jan 21	Barnet	P-P
Jan 28	AFC Wimbledon	D 2-2
Feb 4	West Ham Utd	W 2-1
Feb 11	<b>Millwall Lionesses</b>	<b>P-P</b>
Feb 25	<b>AFC Wimbledon</b>	<b>H</b>
Mar 4	<b>West Ham Utd</b>	<b>H</b>
Mar 11	Southampton	A

### Womens Premier League South

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Watford	13	12	0	1	56	21	36
Barnet	15	9	1	5	38	21	28
Portsmouth	11	7	4	0	34	13	27
Reading Royals	13	7	1	5	24	22	22
Millwall Lionesses	12	6	2	4	30	19	20
Bristol City	14	5	5	4	27	27	20
Keynsham Town	14	6	1	7	33	36	19
West Ham Utd	14	4	3	7	16	22	15
Brighton & HA	14	4	2	8	32	47	14
<b>Crystal Palace</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>11</b>
AFC Wimbledon	12	3	2	7	13	31	11
Southampton	15	1	4	10	18	45	7



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## Palace Academy



Under 18s Coach  
**Gary Issott**

Last weekend we made the trip to Norwich City in the league and we came away with a good 4-0 victory thanks to goals from Ben Kudjodji, Jerahl Hughes, Sean Scannell and James Dayton.

We did really well in the first half and had lots of possession to try and break them down and we managed to do that after 38 minutes, when Ben got onto Dayton's cross at the near post and put us a goal ahead.

It was only 1-0 at half time though, despite the fact that we'd had a lot of the game without creating too many chances and the goal was probably our first real chance of the game.

In the second half, we did ever so well and we scored straight after the break through Jerahl, again from a James Dayton cross and we went on to pretty much dominate the rest of the game from there.

The third goal came through Sean who was on as a substitute, before James got the fourth five minutes from the end with a fantastic strike across the keeper from an angle.

I have to say that Johnny Bostock did really well again, playing in central midfield for us. He's still only 15, but we've promoted him now until the

### Academy Fixtures 2006/07

#### 2006 & 2007

Aug 19	Sheffield Wednesday	D 0-0
Aug 26	<b>Liverpool</b>	<b>W 3-1</b>
Sept 2	Cardiff City	W 4-2
Sept 9	Coventry City	W 1-0
Sept 16	<b>Leicester City</b>	<b>L 1-3</b>
Sept 23	<b>Norwich City</b>	<b>W 1-0</b>
Sept 30	Ipwich Town	L 2-3
Oct 7	<b>Arsenal</b>	<b>L 2-3</b>
Oct 14	West Ham Utd	L 1-2
Oct 21	<b>Chelsea</b>	<b>W 4-3</b>
Nov 4	Fulham	W 2-1
Nov 11	<b>Millwall</b>	<b>W 1-0</b>
Nov 18	Southampton	W 4-2
Dec 2	<b>Charlton Athletic</b>	<b>W 3-1</b>
Dec 11 FA CUP	<b>Stoke City</b>	<b>W 4-1</b>
Jan 6	Chelsea	D 1-1
Jan 16 FA CUP	<b>Plymouth Argyle</b>	<b>W 4-2</b>
Jan 20	Millwall	W 5-0
Jan 30 FA CUP	Manchester United	L 0-2
Feb 3	<b>Southampton</b>	<b>L 1-2</b>
Feb 10	Charlton Athletic	D 0-0
Feb 17	Norwich City	W 4-0
Feb 24	<b>Ipswich Town</b>	<b>H</b>
Mar 3	Arsenal	A
Mar 10	<b>Bristol City</b>	<b>H</b>
Mar 17	Birmingham City	A
Mar 24	Aston Villa	A
Mar 30	<b>West Ham Utd</b>	<b>H</b>
Apr 14	Watford	A
Apr 21	Milton Keynes Dons	H
Apr 28	Fulham	H

### FA Premier Academy Under 18s

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	20	15	4	1	52	26	49
West Ham Utd	19	13	3	3	38	25	42
Chelsea	19	12	3	4	31	19	39
<b>Crystal Palace</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>36</b>
Southampton	20	11	1	8	47	33	34
Ipswich Town	19	8	4	7	35	34	28
Charlton Athletic	20	7	5	8	34	36	26
Norwich City	20	7	1	12	22	32	22
Millwall	19	5	3	11	25	42	18
Fulham	19	2	4	13	20	45	10

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with Alan Russell

# A *To* Z

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Welcome to the latest in our features where we take a look at many things related to Palace, going from A and working our way through to Z.

Today it's U for Uphill.

With the sad passing of one of Palace's former players a few weeks ago now seemed a very apt time to look back at the career of forward Dennis Uphill.

Born in Bath on 11th August 1931, Dennis (real first name Edward) started his playing career like many in his day as an amateur in non-league football. Starting off at Athenian league side Finchley FC in the latter 1940's, Dennis then signed for west country non-league side Peasedown and whilst there helped them to two Somerset cup victories before making the jump to league football when he joined Tottenham in September 1949,

initially turning out for their youth team.

It was the following year that he made his debut for them and went on during the next three seasons to make six starts for Spurs as inside forward, scoring twice. In February 1953 he moved to Reading in a part exchange deal, the Hoops like Palace at the time were playing in Division Three South. During the course of the next two and a half seasons, he proved successful and scored 46 league and cup goals in 98 games before transferring to Coventry City.

After only one season (where he hit 16 goals) he moved to Mansfield Town and during the two seasons with the Stags (1956-58) he scored 38 goals in just over 80 first team games. In June 1959 his next move was back south, to Watford and he struck up a prolific partnership with another future Palace player (Cliff Holton), the two of them claiming 72 of Watford's 92 league goals during season 1959/60, with 30 of them coming from Dennis.



Crystal Palace FC 1960/61  
Dennis Uphill circled bottom left

Then after losing his first team place at Watford soon after the start of the next campaign, and without prior indication, Palace manager Arthur Rowe (who had signed and managed Dennis at Tottenham) signed him for a £1,500 fee on 6th October 1960 to cover an injury crisis that saw the Glaziers missing eight senior players (including striker Johnny Byrne).

Two days later he had a dream start for Palace, scoring two goals in a 4-2 home win over Barrow. The first was converted at close range from Roy Summersby's low cross, while the second had a hint of class about it as he backheeled the ball inside the area to score, after a lay off from midfielder Ron Heckman.

Dennis kept his place in the Palace team for 12 straight games alongside Roy Summersby and Johnny Byrne mainly, and in total scored nine goals (another double coming on New Year's Eve against Doncaster in a 5-1 win) in 27 starts for the first eleven. The very next season he scored four more in 31 games, including two



in a 7-2 home victory over Torquay United in December 1961.

During 1962/63 he turned out on 16 more occasions scoring only once. His last first team appearance was in the FA Cup on 27th November in the Palace line-up that were hammered 7-2 by his ex-club Mansfield Town. Ironically it was the departure of manager Arthur Rowe due to ill health very shortly after this that led to his exclusion from the first team, not the fact of the heavy defeat.

With that poor result and a run of defeats behind them, Palace's caretaker boss Dick Graham made changes to the first team and Dennis became a casualty of that, spending the remainder of the season in the reserves before departing at the end of 1962/63 at the age of 31, after 74 appearances for Palace.

Dennis then moved back to non-league football with Rugby Town, and following on from there was known to have played for several other non-league sides.

A keen cricketer, he also played at non first class level for Somerset, and listed golf amongst his other sporting interests. Apart from Somerset Cup success, his only other medal in football came when he was part of the army ordnance corp side that won the Army Cup in 1950, meeting King George at the ceremony to present the medals after the game.

After retiring from sport, Dennis worked as a bookmaker and also a van driver later, where he once recounted the amusing tale of being arrested by armed police because his van had been fitted with different licence plates on the front and back of the vehicle.

A recent visitor back to Selhurst Park during the past few seasons, Dennis attended a player reunion at Palace during 2002, and again was also present during another reunion in 2005 when the Palace Centenary DVD was being filmed for release.

Dennis sadly passed away on 7th February, aged 75, but will be remembered by older Palace fans as a player who took the blows for Johnny Byrne and others and allowed them to play their natural creative game.

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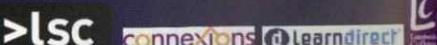
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## Ben Watson's All Time XI

Ever wondered who the idols of the Crystal Palace players may be? Well now you have the chance, as we find out who the members of the Eagles squad and management would choose if they were to pick an all-time favourite XI.

This week, we hear from midfielder Ben Watson who picked a team packed with a certain shared characteristic of his own!

Choosing a **4-3-3** formation, Ben's team contains players who have featured in World Cups, European Cups and Premiership sides.

Ben's 'Ginger XI' is listed below.

**Goalkeeper:** **Mike Hooper**. The long serving Liverpool stopper was used mainly as back-up to Bruce Grobbelaar but was always a reliable player when selected.

**Right back:** **James Collins**. The West Ham United defender is a Welsh international and first caught the eye when he broke through the ranks as a youngster with Cardiff City.

**Left back:** **Jon Arne Riise**. The Norwegian international has become one of Liverpool's key players over the last few years and scored the winner against Barcelona just this week.

**Centre back:** **Alexi Lalas**. The US international defender first came to notice in the 1994 World Cup and had a spell playing in Italy. Now David Beckham's future boss at the LA Galaxy.

**Centre back:** **Mathias Sammer**. A tough and uncompromising German international, who won the Champions League with Borussia Dortmund and over 50 caps for Germany.

**Midfield:** **Gordon Strachan**. The fiery Scot had a great career with the likes of Aberdeen, Manchester United and Leeds and was a great attacker from midfield.



**Midfield:** **Paul Scholes**. The 'Ginger Prince' is a Manchester United legend and one of England's greatest goalscoring midfielders.

**Midfield:** **David Hopkin**. The former Palace midfielder was a play-off hero for the Eagles and another flame haired Scottish international.

**Forward:** **Dave Kitson**. The Reading target man has recently been involved in the first team at the Madejski Stadium and is looking to leave his impression on the Premiership.

**Forward:** **John Hartson**. Now at WBA, the Welsh international lists the likes of Celtic, West Ham, Arsenal and today's visitors Luton Town as his former clubs.

**Forward:** **Tommy Johnson**. A former Celtic, Aston Villa and Derby County player, the Geordie was most recently found playing for Gillingham and Scunthorpe in the lower leagues.



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In the last few weeks, Palace World subscribers have been able to see the following interviews:-



Palace World spoke to defender Leon Cort earlier this week ahead of Tuesday's trip to one of his former clubs in Southend United. The big man also gave his thoughts on his goalscoring return this season, as he is up there with the club's top scorers due to his prowess in the air from set pieces and also on how the Palace squad are hoping to finish the season on a high.



Exclusive footage of the post-match press conferences from the games with Birmingham City last weekend and then from the game at Southend on Tuesday. Hear exactly how Peter Taylor reacted to the results and what he had to say to the reporters at each of those games. This is footage that can't be seen anywhere else!



Eagles striker Clinton Morrison admitted how he has been disappointed with the season so far on a personal basis and his goalscoring return, but is now looking to finish the campaign on a high and as the club's top scorer. Morrison was speaking ahead of last weekend's game with his former team Birmingham City and he also revealed more about the time he spent at St Andrews in the Premiership.

To see all of the goals and reaction from today's match and the previous games from this season, make sure you log on or subscribe to Palace World with all the latest from SE25 on your computer screen!



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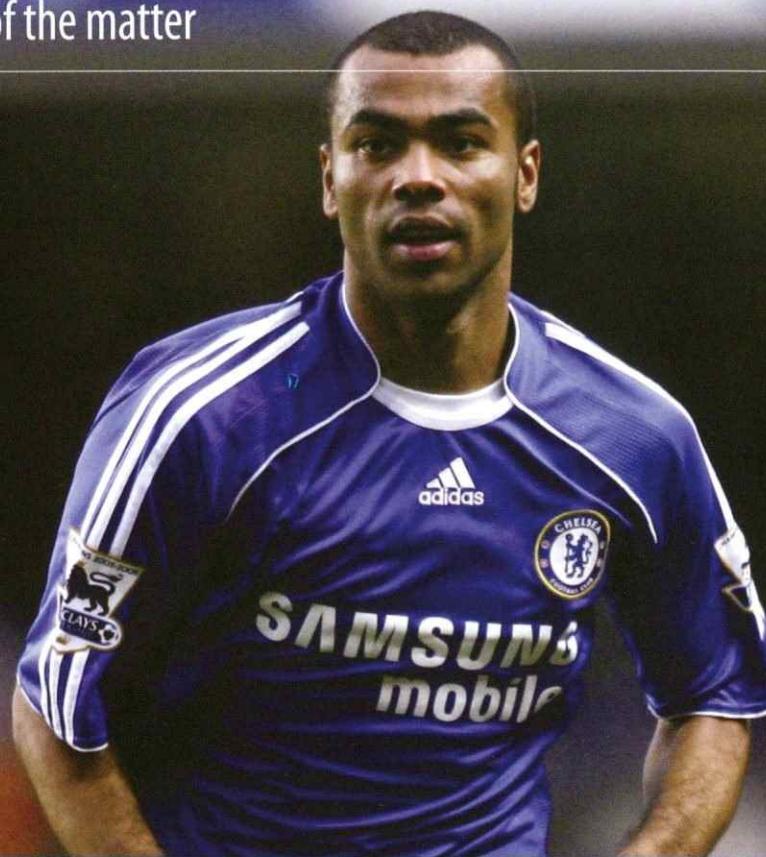
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## The Hart of the matter

with Ian Hart



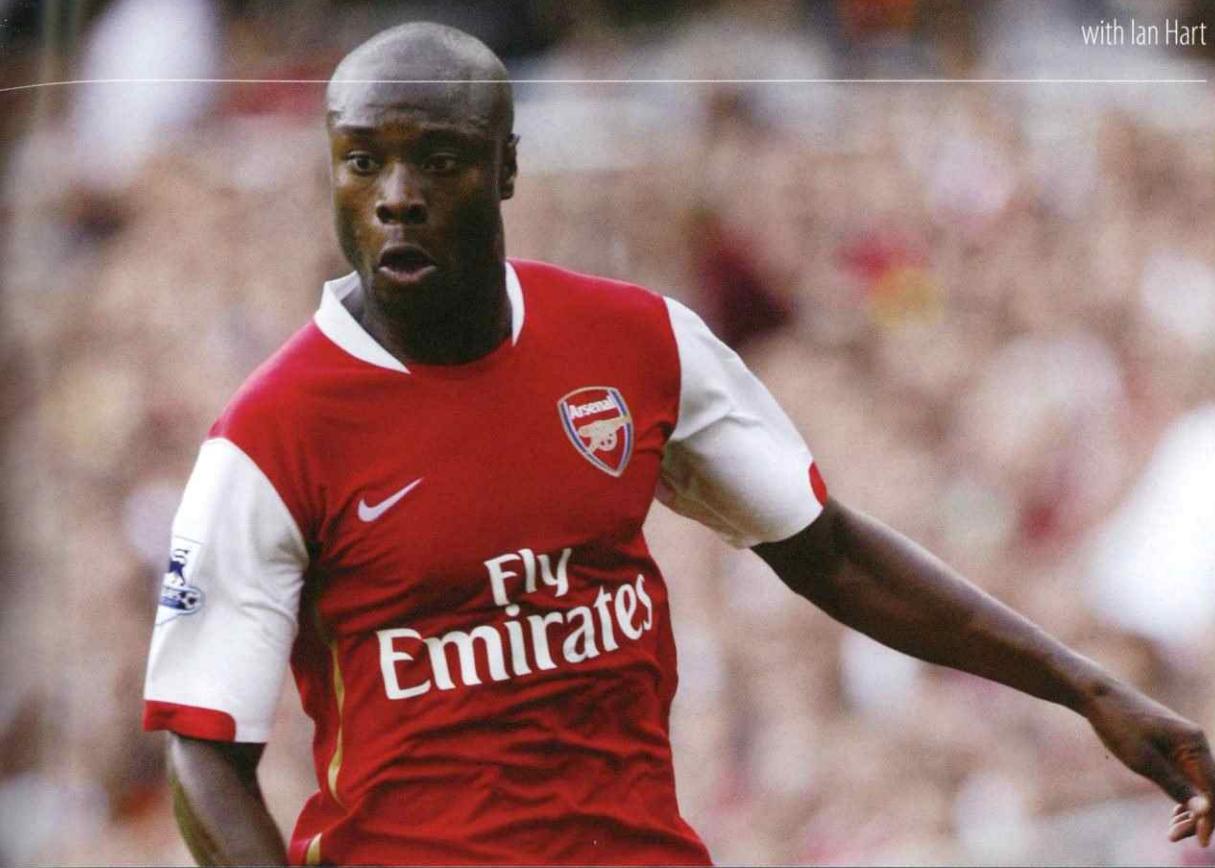
**A** few weeks ago we had what can often be one of the most mystifying but entertaining days of the year, one that can be enjoyed from the comfort of your office desk or your home sofa. Transfer Deadline Day. You don't have to do anything energetic; merely sit back and watch teletext or a computer screen whilst the last minute scramble for players unfolds.

What I have always found curious is why so many clubs leave it until the very last possible day to sort out who they want. After all, the Transfer Window has been open for a whole month, and additionally clubs have had the opportunity in the weeks leading up to the Window to make provisional deals with clubs and players which can be ratified when the Window opens. So why, with so much time to get things sorted, are so many clubs invariably hustling around on the final day – often in the final minutes of the final day – to get deals done? And with the mad panic that prevails throughout those last hours, how many clubs stampede into a signing that

within just a few weeks they are already regretting?

Let's travel back in time just a few short months to the last day of the previous transfer window at the end of August, and remind ourselves of some of the last minute desperate deals that were done in the Premiership. Well of course the deal that got most attention that day was the one that brought a couple of Argentines, Messrs Tevez and Mascherano, to Upton Park. At the time there was mild euphoria in East London, and a mixture of mystification and intrigue everywhere else. The main confusion concerned how much they had cost and who now owned them. The answers to those questions are no clearer nearly six months later. But in pure football terms, I wrote in this programme at the time that (contrary to all the excitement that was being voiced elsewhere) I had significant doubts about their ability to settle into the Premiership. Nothing that has happened in the ensuing months has made me feel my caution was misplaced.

The other deal that made the biggest news at the time was Chelsea and Arsenal swapping the unhappy Cole and the unhappy Gallas, with Chelsea also throwing £5m into the deal. Of course, no-one is going to suggest anything other than both players are amongst the top defenders currently playing in this country. Only they haven't been. Both of them have spent much of the season on the treatment table, and whilst neither club will claim they regret signing their player, both Chelsea and Arsenal must feel the impact so far hasn't been quite as they had envisaged. Indeed, Arsenal are doubtless thinking the same about another swap they completed on that day – when they took Julio Baptista from Real Madrid in a loan exchange for Reyes. Despite some success when drafted in for cup matches, Baptista's form has been such that at the time of writing he has been selected to start only three league games, and is yet to score. He has hardly shown himself worth the £10m he is allegedly valued at.



Lets take a look at some other deadline deals.

Portsmouth swooped to sign Niko Kranjcar for £3.5m. He had looked a useful player for Hajduk Split, but has become an increasingly peripheral figure for Pompey, making just 7 starts (no goals) and recently he hasn't even made it onto their bench. One wonders if Harry Redknapp would be quite so keen to sign him if he could turn back the clock and have the opportunity to reconsider. Then there was the £6m that it cost an inexperienced manager to bring Robert Huth to Middlesbrough. Huth is another who has suffered from injury, which might have given Gareth Southgate time to reflect whether he should have been quite so keen to spend such a sum on him that day, when some might suggest that with Woodgate, Taylor and Riggott he could already field a decent pairing. Similarly, do Spurs regret splashing out £6m on Pascal Chimbonda now that they have noticed that their defence have conceded a lot more goals since he joined the team from

Wigan. Speaking of Wigan, on that same day they swooped (have you noticed how clubs "swoop" or "plunge" for players) to sign David Cotterill and Kevin Kilbane. As they now hover above the relegation zone with neither player in the team, one wonders whether they too wish they had bought them on a sale or return basis.

Go back a year from there, and Transfer Deadline Day was equally frenetic, and once again you can't escape the view that many of the buying Managers were panicked into acquisitions they were to regret. Probably none more so than Graeme Souness who at the time was in charge at Newcastle, but was under great pressure after a poor start to the season. So he splashed out £18m for Michael Owen, more than double the figure Real Madrid had paid Liverpool for him, and way above the figure Liverpool were prepared to pay to get him back. It could be argued that Souness was simply unlucky that Owen was to prove so injury prone. But the greater the risk you take, the more you are going to need the dice to roll in your

favour. Given his time over, would Graeme Souness have bought Michael Owen again, or used the money on three or four other players?

And so we come back to the recent Transfer Deadline Day, which in fact involved a lot fewer clubs than normal. Sam Allardyce blamed the £2.7billion TV package that comes into play next season, claiming it caused hysteria in the relegation zone, resulting in inflated fees and wages he simply could not afford. "We just haven't been able to get involved," he complained. "We tried between 20 and 30 transfer targets and never got anywhere near in terms of sorting something out. We just didn't have the financial clout."

Perhaps he should be grateful that he wasn't panicked into overpaying like so many others have done.



## Player Interview

**A**fter arriving at Selhurst Park last summer, Matt Lawrence has seen his Palace career pick up some consistency recently, filling in at left-back for the injured Danny Granville and Gary Borrowdale. On and off the substitutes' bench for the first half of the season, Matt saw out the end of the year with a start away at Cardiff City in the last game of 2006 and has been in the starting XI ever since.

**"I've been relatively pleased with things, but it's been quite a tough season for me because I've been playing in allsorts of positions really,"** said the former Millwall defender.

**"It's something that I'm happy to do but I'd probably prefer to cement a single position and play there for most of the year."**

Ideally, Matt would love to cement himself in one position in the Palace back four and build up a relationship with those around him, including his old team-mate from Millwall, Darren Ward, but his ability to answer Peter Taylor's call to play in any position is something that has been asked of him before and one that causes him no problems.

**"When I was at Fulham, I played in all four positions; at right-back, left-back and both centre halves so it's no big deal,"** he explained.

**"Before I came to Palace, I had spent three or four years playing at centre-half so it's a bit different now playing all around the place."**

**"I've played six or seven games at left-back and had a good understanding with Wardy. Then Wardy was left out and Huds came in, so you build an understanding. The manager played football himself to a very good standard and knows that you always want to play in a similar position, which means you**

**can get used to those around you.**

**"You always want to stay in the same position but I have no problems with playing wherever - it's something I'm happy to do,"** concluded Matt, who appeared for Millwall in the FA Cup Final of 2004.

When the offer to move the short distance from The New Den to Selhurst Park came about last summer, Matt spoke to Ward who had made the move a year previously and, with the ongoing internal events at the Bermondsey based club, combined with the potential and set-up at Palace, it was a relatively easy decision to make.

**"When I left Millwall, it was because I wanted to stay playing in the Championship - everybody understood that at the club,"** explained the 32-year-old.

**"Last season was the worst of my career, we had a very poor squad as most of the best players had been sold, people like Kevin Muscat, Tim Cahill and Darren Ward. Before that, the likes of Lucas Neill and Steven Reid were sold and they are all now playing in the Premier League."**

The constant upheavals behind the scenes at the Den eventually affected the playing staff and the all-round atmosphere was not conducive to produce the best results on the pitch. The best players were being sold, which meant only one thing to Matt.

**"It was always inevitable that we were getting relegated last season and everyone at the club was resigned to it from almost day one"** explained Matt, who had made it known to the outside world that all was not well at the club given the Boardroom and management upheavals that had taken place in the build-up to last season.

**"I know that I said it, and that wasn't being pessimistic,"** he revealed. **"It was just a fact that with the squad we had and how there were about seven managers and four Chairmen in 18 months."**

Matt still feels sorry about what happened at Millwall but was pleased to be offered the chance to play Championship football by Palace, rather than remaining in League One with the Lions.

**"It was a shame how it happened,"** recalled Matt, **"But the club was on a downward spiral and they were always going to be in mid-table mediocrity and that's not what I wanted to do in the league below."**

As for the present time, Matt is happy to be playing regularly for a Palace side that has strung some good results together and remains philosophical on his inevitable 'utility player' tag and is happy as long as he is playing week-in, week-out.

**"The manager picks the team and where people play and I'm happy to play where selected,"** he added.

So maybe expect to see Matt donning the goalkeeping jersey at some point in the future.

# 2-Matt Lawrence

## Player Interview

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	67(60)	10	3(2)	2	15(6)	5	0	0	153	17				0	0	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	1	0	
Tommy BLACK	63(24)	0	3(1)	0	7(4)	0	1	0	103	0				13(1)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	15	0	
Gary BORROWDALE	130(5)	5	7(1)	0	12(1)	0	3(1)	1	159	6				23(1)	0	1(1)	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	
Danny BUTTERFIELD	25	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	26	6				25	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	26	6	
Leon CORT	21(4)	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	27	2	Wales	18	0	21(4)	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	27	2	
Carl FLETCHER	7(1)	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	11	0				7(1)	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	11	0	
Scott FLINDERS	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Arron FRAY	206(98)	94	7(6)	1	16(3)	9	4(4)	2	344	106	Scotland	2	1	8(22)	3	1(1)	0	1	0	0	0	33	3	
Lewis GRABBAN	(1)	0	0	0	(2)	0	0	0	3	0				(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Danny GRANVILLE	117(5)	9	4(3)	0	6	1	3	0	138	10				15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	
Stuart GREEN	5(9)	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	16	2				5(9)	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	16	2	
Ryan HALL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mark HUDSON	55(8)	4	5	0	7	0	0	0	75	4				26(1)	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	30	3	
Michael HUGHES	108(15)	7	4	1	6	2	5	0	138	10	N. Ireland	71	4	10(3)	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	15	1	
Paul IFILL	5(2)	2	(1)	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	Barbados	8	6	5(2)	2	(1)	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	
Mark KENNEDY	30(1)	0	1(1)	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	R. of Ireland	34	3	30(1)	0	1(1)	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	
Gabor KIRALY	95	0	4	0	1	0	2	0	102	0	Hungary	70	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	
Shefki KUQI	19(9)	5	1(1)	1	0	0	0	0	30	6	Finland	47	5	19(9)	5	1(1)	1	0	0	0	0	30	6	
Matt LAWRENCE	20(3)	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	26	0				20(3)	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	26	0	
Jon MACKEN *	14(11)	2	(2)	0	2	0	(1)	0	30	2	R. of Ireland	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	
Dave MARTIN	(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0				(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Jobi McANUFF	60(9)	11	4	2	2	0	2	0	77	13	Jamaica	1	0	25(3)	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	30	5	
Clinton MORRISON	192(34)	81	6(1)	1	18(4)	9	1(1)	0	257	91	R. of Ireland	36	9	19(10)	6	1(1)	0	1	0	0	0	32	6	
Marco REICH *	18(9)	2	1(1)	0	2(1)	2	(1)	0	33	4	Germany	1	0	4(2)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	0	
James SCOWCROFT	19(5)	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	25	4				19(5)	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	25	4	
Charlie SHERINGHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Tom SOARES	76(19)	4	1(2)	0	3(1)	1	2	0	104	5				22(4)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	3	
Lewwis SPENCE	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	2	0				(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	2	0	
Julian SPERONI	11(1)	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	18	0				2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	
Phil STARKEY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Iain TURNER *	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0				5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	
Darren WARD	62(1)	5	4	1	1	0	1	0	69	6				20	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	23	0	
Ben WATSON	77(22)	5	4	0	6(3)	0	1(1)	0	114	5				10(5)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	16	0	
Rhys WIGGINS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
David WILKINSON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

\* Player no longer at the club.



# WICKES IS SPLASHING OUT THIS SEASON.

Following the success of last season's 'On Me Shed Son' Wickes, the Official Home Improvement Partner of The Football League Championship, are excited to present the new half-time game for the season: 'A Game of Two Baths'. At the final home game of the season five heat winners will play-off for a guaranteed Wickes bathroom up to the value of £2,500.

The competition is very simple. Two lucky people selected from the crowd at each home game will have 30 seconds to get as many balls in the bath as possible. Each participant will receive £20 of Wickes vouchers and their scores will be placed in a league system. The top five will then be asked back as VIP guests of Wickes to play off for the bathroom at the last home game of the season.



The following classes of people are ineligible to compete in the contest: Current or former professional or semi professional players from the following categories: Current or former players (Premiership and Football League 1-3). Current or former (past five years) professionals or semi-professionals of the Nationwide Conference. Current or former (past five years) Isthmian League, Northern League or Southern League players or equivalent. Any players who have played an equivalent level in a foreign country. Employees and family members of Wickes Building Supplies Ltd, or members of its promotional or advertising agencies involved in this contest. The winning participant must be over 17 years of age. Personal identification will be requested. In the event of a draw, contestant's names will be put into a hat and drawn at random. No cash alternative.



YOUR LUCKY NUMBER IS:  
**0808**

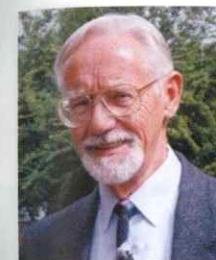
Printed above is your lucky number. Listen out for the winning numbers which will be announced over the PA system and shown on the Jumbotron screen during the first half.

If you're one of the 10 lucky winners, make yourself known to a steward immediately and you will be directed to the tunnel entrance where you'll be met by a CPFC representative. A further draw will take place with two winners being invited onto the pitch to impress the fans with their shooting skills and get the chance to win a £2,500 bathroom in the end of season play off.

Name	Game	Points
Keith Blackwell	Barnsley	20
John Madigan	QPR	20
Vincent Downey	Stoke	15
Billy Pitt	Hull	15
Ian Bowden	Colchester	10
Paul Connery	Norwich	10



## Season Statistics 2006/07



A Statistical Review  
2006/07 by John McBride

John McBride is a member of the Association of Football Statisticians, 53 St Philip Street, London SW8 3SR

[www.llvll.co.uk](http://www.llvll.co.uk)  
Tel: 020 7720 5079

Statistics correct up to and including  
**20.02.07**

### ATTENDANCES      ENGLISH LEAGUES 2006/07

Coca-Cola Championship		PLD	AVGE	HIGHEST	LOWEST	AV.05/06
BARNESLEY		17	11,790	21,253	9,479	9,054
BIRMINGHAM CITY		16	21,342	29,431	15,854	27,392
BURNLEY		16	12,319	15,061	10,039	12,462
CARDIFF CITY		17	15,701	20,109	11,547	11,720
COLCHESTER UTD		17	5,095	6,065	4,249	3,969
COVENTRY CITY		17	19,575	27,212	16,178	21,302
<b>CRYSTAL PALACE</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17,369</b>	<b>20,159</b>	<b>16,093</b>	<b>19,457</b>	
DERBY COUNTY		16	25,016	31,920	21,295	24,166
HULL CITY		16	18,576	25,512	14,895	19,841
IPSWICH TOWN		17	22,253	28,355	19,337	24,253
LEEDS UTD		17	20,083	29,593	16,268	22,355
LEICESTER CITY		16	22,355	30,457	18,677	22,234
LUTON TOWN		16	8,424	10,260	7,441	9,139
NORWICH CITY		16	24,544	25,433	23,311	24,952
PLYMOUTH ARGYLE		17	13,495	17,088	9,841	13,776
PRESTON NORTH END		17	14,283	19,603	11,601	14,617
QPR		16	12,380	14,793	10,811	13,441
SHEFFIELD WED		16	23,880	29,103	19,034	24,853
SOUTHAMPTON		17	21,642	30,548	18,979	23,614
SOUTHEND UTD		17	9,940	11,415	7,901	8,053
STOKE CITY		17	15,387	23,017	11,626	14,432
SUNDERLAND		17	29,618	40,116	24,242	33,904
WBA		17	20,225	26,606	17,417	25,404
WOLVES		17	19,804	27,203	16,772	23,624

TOTALS				
Premier	267	34,567	76,073	14,636
Championship	399	17,675	40,116	4,249
League One	397	7,660	24,567	3,077
League Two	394	4,038	10,010	1,234
GRAND TOTALS	1,457	14,245		14,287

(Note: Calculations are mostly based on first published attendances)

### GOAL STATS - ALL DIVISIONS 2006/07

#### GOALS - AVERAGE PER MATCH

Division	Gls	Matches	Avg	05/06 Avg
Premier	645	267	2.42	2.48
Cham'ship	1,016	399	2.55	2.44
League 1	943	397	2.38	2.50
League 2	1,010	394	2.56	2.52
TOTAL	3,614	1,457	2.48	2.49

#### GOAL DIFFERENCE

Division	Best	Worst
Premier	Man Utd	+45
Cham'ship	WBA	+23
League 1	Oldham	+25
League 2	Walsall	+24
	Boston/Torquay	-25

#### GOALS SCORED

Division	Best	Worst
Premier	Man Utd	63
Cham'ship	WBA	61
League 1	Oldham	52
League 2	Lincoln	60
	Torquay	27

#### GOALS CONCEDED

Division	Best	Worst
Premier	Man Utd	18
Cham'ship	Stoke City	27
League 1	Scunthorpe	24
League 2	Walsall/Wycombe	26
	Boston	63

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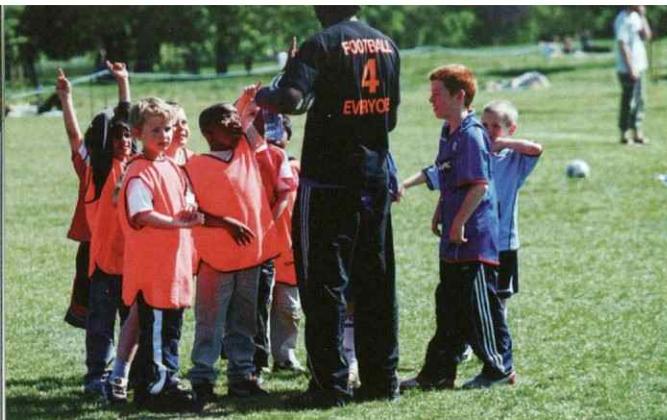
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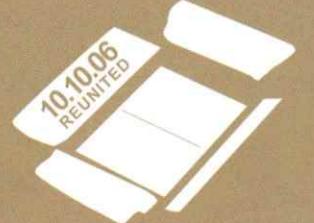
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## Palace Study Centre

"Palace's Commitment to the Community in Action"

Today we continue our focus on Playing for Success International again quoting extensively from the Playing for Success Annual Yearbook for 2006

Red Star Belgrade FC, in partnership with Manchester United PFS centre, has started work on a commemorative compilation to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1958 Munich air disaster in which many Manchester United FC players lost their lives. The BBC Reading and Writing initiative (RAW) and the British Council in Serbia are partners in this project, details of which are being published to all fans through match-day programmes. The initiative will culminate in visits by poet and writer Craig Bradley to both the museum and the PFS centre at Manchester United FC.

In Germany, Bergerfeld and Schalke '04 hosted a conference, in conjunction with the British Council, which included a presentation by Newcastle local authority of PFS to leading German football clubs. The partnership between Bergerfeld School, All Saints College, Newcastle NUFC Learning Centre and Schalke '04 has continued to develop throughout 2006. A second workshop on PFS was delivered to representatives from German football clubs, UEFA, the FA, the German FA and the British and German governments at a pre-World Cup conference held at the British Embassy in Berlin.

At the Leicester Tigers RUFC PFS learning centre, a range of activities took place via the internet with the Mount Roskill Intermediate School in Auckland, New Zealand. This followed an initial visit by the centre manager together with a deputy head teacher from a local school.

A cultural exchange and citizenship project, supported by the British Council, resulted in a visit by head teachers, representatives from the International Liaison Committee and the centre manager of Stockport Town FC PFS centre in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Meetings took place with a range of interested parties, including the Secretary of Education, Dr. Pinotchi; a number of projects and visits are now in the planning stage.

Future plans include the sharing of cultural experiences throughout football as the focus for a British Council programme involving Polish students and those at the PFS centre at Norwich City FC. Video conferencing and other electronic forms of communication will be used in this new project linking young people from the two countries. Today we welcome Luton Town F.C.; they are keen to establish a PFS centre at the club. We hope that their keenness bears fruit but let's hope on the football field where it "matters", that Palace send the "hatters" back to Luton disappointed this afternoon.

Chris Myant, Centre Manager  
Email: [cpssc@hotmail.com](mailto:cpssc@hotmail.com)  
Tel. No. 020 8768 6066



## Palace Crystals Cheerleaders

### The Liberty Pyramid

How many cheerleaders does it take to lift a liberty? In all girl teams, an extension requires a minimum of three bases, often a fourth is used to stabilise the stunt. In coed teams, a man can lift a cheerleader to liberty by himself, with a safety spotter positioned nearby. The history of stunt building is that the top girl was raised to eye level with fans seated higher in the stands, generating more enthusiasm from those who might feel slightly removed from the action.

Our cheerleaders work hard on strength, technique and stamina and are proud to entertain you



while you wait for the game to begin. In return, they are encouraged when you join them with enthusiasm for the Eagles. Are you one of those fans seated towards the top of the stands? If you spot the cheerleaders successfully balancing a teammate high in the air, look for her eye contact! Then warm-up your vocal chords...





## 2006/07 match statistics

## Key

- Player in starting XI
- Substitute appearance
- Unused Substitute
- <45 Sub on inc. minute
- >45 Subbed inc. minute
- 1 Goals scored
- Yellow Card
- Red Card

 **Coca-Cola CHAMPIONSHIP**

Pos	Name	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	P
1	Derby County	33	9	4	4	20	15	10	2	4	22	17	+10	6
2	WBA	34	13	3	1	39	14	5	5	7	22	24	+23	6
3	Birmingham	32	9	5	2	27	16	9	2	5	24	15	+20	6
4	Preston	33	11	4	2	29	12	6	4	6	20	22	+15	5
5	Sunderland	34	10	3	4	25	11	7	3	7	25	24	+15	5
6	Southampton	34	10	5	2	26	13	5	6	6	29	26	+16	5
7	Cardiff City	34	9	6	2	26	12	6	5	6	20	23	+11	5
8	Wolves	34	8	5	4	24	18	8	3	6	13	17	+2	5
9	Stoke City	34	8	7	2	23	9	6	4	7	19	18	+15	5
10	Colchester	34	12	2	3	38	15	3	4	10	16	25	+14	5
11	Plymouth	33	6	7	4	25	20	5	6	5	20	23	+2	4
12	Crystal Palace	34	8	2	7	21	17	4	7	6	19	21	+2	4
13	Leicester City	33	6	5	5	19	17	5	5	7	17	22	-3	4
14	Sheffield Wed	33	5	4	7	23	28	6	4	7	23	23	-5	4
15	Coventry City	34	8	4	5	22	17	4	1	12	12	29	-12	4
16	Burnley	33	6	4	6	21	18	4	5	8	14	19	-2	3
17	Ipswich Town	33	8	2	7	25	23	3	4	9	15	22	-5	3
18	Norwich City	31	8	3	5	23	18	2	4	9	15	31	-11	3
19	Luton Town	33	7	5	4	27	21	2	4	11	14	33	-13	3
20	Barnsley	34	7	4	6	22	21	3	1	13	16	37	-20	3
21	QPR	33	6	3	7	22	22	3	4	10	16	31	-15	3
22	Hull City	33	5	2	9	20	22	3	6	8	13	26	-15	3
23	Southend	34	5	4	8	23	26	2	6	9	9	27	-21	3
24	Leeds United	33	6	3	8	18	24	3	1	12	16	33	-23	3

(Correct up to and including 22.02.07)

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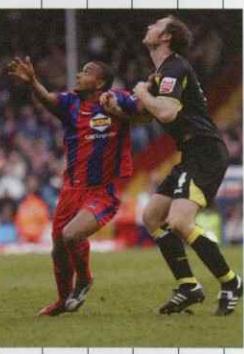
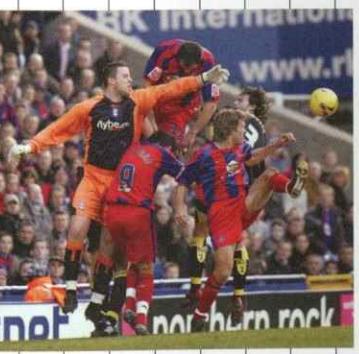
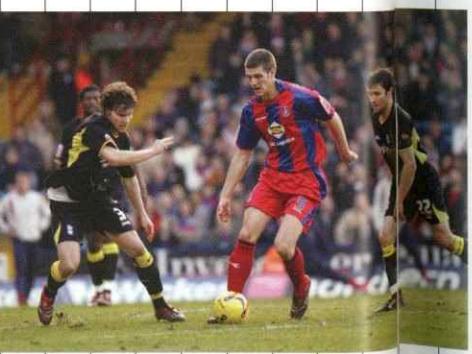
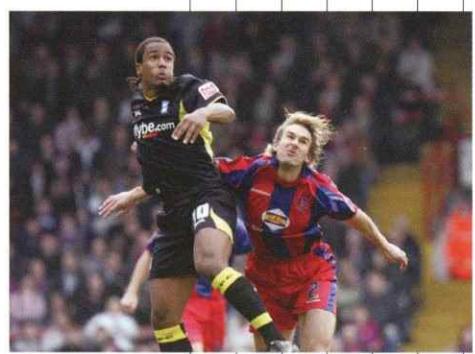
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## CRYSTAL PALACE

### MANAGER

**Peter Taylor**

<b>1</b>	Scott FLINDERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2</b>	Matt LAWRENCE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>3</b>	Danny GRANVILLE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>4</b>	Darren WARD	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>5</b>	Mark HUDSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>6</b>	Leon CORT	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>7</b>	Jobi McANUFF	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>8</b>	James SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>9</b>	Dougie FREEDMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>11</b>	Clinton MORRISON	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>12</b>	Julian SPERONI	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>14</b>	Ben WATSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>15</b>	Mark KENNEDY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>16</b>	Tommy BLACK	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>17</b>	Michael HUGHES	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>18</b>	Gary BORROWDALE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>19</b>	Tom SOARES	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>20</b>	Danny BUTTERFIELD	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>21</b>	David MARTIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>23</b>	Carl FLETCHER	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>25</b>	Stuart GREEN	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>27</b>	Paul IFILL	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>28</b>	Gabor KIRALY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>31</b>	Arron FRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>32</b>	Shefki KUQI	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>33</b>	Lewis GRABBAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>34</b>	Phil STARKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>35</b>	Rhoys WIGGINS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>36</b>	Lewis SPENCE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>37</b>	Charlie SHERINGHAM	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>38</b>	David WILKINSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>40</b>	Ryan HALL	<input type="checkbox"/>



## LUTON TOWN

### MANAGER

**Mike Newell**

<b>1</b>	Marlon BERESFORD	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2</b>	Kevin FOLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>3</b>	Sol DAVIS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>4</b>	Chris COYNE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>5</b>	Russell PERRETT	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>6</b>	Paul UNDERWOOD	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>7</b>	Matthew SPRING	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>8</b>	Steve ROBINSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>9</b>	Bjorn RUNSTROM	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>10</b>	Warren FEENEY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>11</b>	Dean MORGAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>14</b>	Michael LEARY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>15</b>	Steven O'LEARY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>16</b>	Lewis EMANUEL	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>17</b>	Richard LANGLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>18</b>	Ahmet BRKOVIC	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>19</b>	Sam PARKIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>20</b>	Adam BOYD	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>21</b>	Keith KEANE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>22</b>	Danny STEVENS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>24</b>	Shaun ROSS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>25</b>	Leon BARNETT	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>26</b>	Markus HEIKKINEN	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>27</b>	Peter HOLMES	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>28</b>	David BELL	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>29</b>	Calvin ANDREW	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>30</b>	Drew TALBOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>32</b>	Ed ASAFU-ADJAYE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>33</b>	Dean BRILL	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>34</b>	Zac BARRETT	<input type="checkbox"/>

### MATCH OFFICIALS

**REFEREE:** S. Mathieson

**ASSISTANT 01:** C. Francis

**ASSISTANT 02:** J. Hayto

**4TH OFFICIAL:** M. McCoy

### NEXT HOME MATCH

Saturday 10th March

**PALACE V LEICESTER CITY**

Coca-Cola Championship

Kick-off 3pm

### TODAY'S OTHER FIXTURES



Colchester v Burnley

Hull City v Birmingham

Leicester v West Brom

Norwich v Coventry

QPR v Plymouth

Sheff Wed v Southend

Southampton v Ipswich

Sunderland v Derby

Wolves v Leeds



Charlton v West Ham

Fulham v Man Utd

Liverpool v Sheff Utd

Middlesbrough v Reading

Watford v Everton

